



The Resonator

Official Newsletter of The Fair Lawn (NJ) Amateur Radio Club

Volume 8, Number 3

www.FairLawnARC.org

March 2023

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From The President

Folks, I hope you are all doing well and that you have enjoyed the winter thus far. Except for one weekend of single-digit temperatures in early February, it's been a mild one here in NJ. By contrast, in early February, the Bouvet Island DXpedition team was facing severe weather – and severe man-made disruptions. But despite conditions that dictated a limited operation and an early departure for home, the 3Y0J team achieved something truly great in the face of tremendous personal risk. We at FLARC salute them and honor them for their bravery and tremendous accomplishments. An effort to honor them formally as a club is being headed up by Jim KB2FMH, who is a close friend of multiple 3Y0J team members. I look forward to receiving a draft from Jim soon.

A highlight of February for me was our club-to-club contact with the West Palm Beach Amateur Radio Group on Feb. 25th... Conditions were great, signals were strong, and we had a great group of people on both ends. Hopefully, this is an event that will be repeated as often as possible. Thanks and congratulations to Ed WX2R for pursuing a relationship with WPBARG and for organizing this fun event.

Coming up this month, first we have *Super Science Saturday* at Ridgewood High School on March 4. By the time this edition of the Resonator is published, this event will have already happened. But as I write this, our Youth Committee Chair, Lee KD2DRS is still hard at work preparing. Lee has done a wonderful job with the planning. A partial list of our activities will include demonstrations of HF digital modes and CW, a satellite contact (weather permitting), a fox hunt and a demonstration of basic radio theory via a working crystal radio.

We'll also be sharing a calendar of other youth-oriented events coming up this year, including a crystal radio kit build night at the club for youth accompanied by parents. As I shared last month, there are many opportunities for those of you who are enthusiastic about bringing amateur radio to youth. Please contact Club Secretary and Youth Chair, Lee KD2DRS or me for more information.

Continued on next page.

Member Profile

NAME: Mitchel Easton CALL: W2MDE

How did you get interested in ham radio?

Like many in our FLARC family, as a kid I couldn't resist the urge to take electrical/electronic things apart that I had no business dis-assembling. Discarded curbside TV's had a way of finding their way to the basement. Some, with the help of the RCA Tube Manual and Sams Photofact guides, got a renewed life of sorts. Others became robbed carcasses that made their way back to the curb. I didn't kill myself (or anyone else) – I learned a lot, and most importantly had fun.

Ham Radio seemed like the natural next step. With the help of a neighborhood Elmer, I got my Novice ticket (WN2YRJ) in 1965. That first QSO in July '65, with my Ameco AC-1 transmitter and Geloso 4/215 receiver, was all it took. I was hooked.

The next year I upgraded to General, and later ditched the AC-1 for an Eico 720 transmitter, 730 modulator, and 722 VFO. The joy of no longer being rock-bound! And AM voice, how cool!

So many wonderful late night AM QSOs with my best bud Art (WB2YEX) all the way to River Edge from Hackensack. Rare DX, indeed! Of course, my parents could (somewhat) hear every one of those late night QSOs on their bedroom AM radio (interrupting Long John Nebel's show). RFI has no manners.

You can only push a single 6146 so far, for so long. One night while in QSO, the Eico 720 reminded me that Nature (and physics) always prevails. The PA section burst into a brief flash of flames and sooty smoke. I was QRT, and the rig was SK. I could not pull that power plug any faster. After the excitement, and my heartbeat calmed, I was simply depressed.

It would be a couple of months before I'd get on the air again. My Dad, who had recently gotten his ticket (WB2CXD), had already been eyeing the Heath SB-301/401 combo. My job was to build them. Thanks, Dad!

What parts of the hobby most interest you?

That's a tough one since there are so many different elements to enjoy. I've found that my focus has changed over the long-term, and even changes over shorter periods of time as well. The over-arching attraction for me is the challenge to always learn something new.

Continued on next page.

From The President, continued

Also, please mark your calendar for our discussion of the 2023 FLARC Member Survey on Friday, March 17 at 7:30 PM. Ed WX2R will be presenting the results of his survey in his usual engaging and entertaining manner. His work on these surveys has been instrumental in moving our club forward and growing our membership. If you haven't been actively involved in FLARC, this will be a good night to check out what we have to offer as we take an introspective look. This event will be a Zoom meeting for members only. I will be setting up for Zoom at the club. Anyone who is interested in attending this event with others at the club please let me know. I'll send out a message via groups.io.

Beyond March, I want to mention two other important events coming up. First, on Saturday, April 22, we will be participating in *Hawthorne Environment Day*, an indoor event sponsored by the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce. Come join us.

And second, on Wednesday, May 24, we have *Earth Day at Great Falls National Historical Park*. We need volunteers for this event. Like last year, we'll be approaching this as a POTA event, so we'll be looking forward to having Steve KA2YRA back at full steam. Please respond to Ed WX2R, Steve KA2YRA or me if you would like to participate.

Also, interest has been expressed in taking a field trip to the *InfoAge Science & History Museums* in Wall, NJ when the weather gets warmer. We've had Facebook contact with the granddaughter of Herbert Kauffman, one of the scientists on Project Diana, which took place on the historic grounds now occupied by InfoAge.

From Wikipedia: "Project Diana, named for the Roman moon goddess Diana, was an experimental project of the US Army Signal Corps in 1946 to bounce radar signals off the Moon and receive the reflected signals. This was the first experiment in radar astronomy and the first active attempt to probe another celestial body. It was the inspiration for later Earth-Moon-Earth communication (EME) techniques." Keep your eyes open for information about this trip in coming weeks.

In closing, I must commend you all for making FLARC a truly great organization. There are always bumps in the road of life, but having a diverse group of fine people with whom we share a common interest adds a much-needed element of fun. Again, it's a great honor to serve.

73, Dave Corsello, KD2JIP
FLARC President

Member Profile, continued

Back in the day (read as 'when hands were less shaky, and eyeglass lenses were thinner'), building/modifying/repairing stuff was the most fun. Of course, Heathkit rigs made it easier to satisfy the building urge, yielded a product that was stable and functional (okay, there were exceptions), and delivered a sense of pride and confidence that can only come from "I built that." While the era of commercially available true-kits has all but evaporated, there's still plenty of opportunity for home-brewing and experimentation.

That said, while a good ragchew or catching a rare DX station are exciting and satisfying, I think the most interesting part of the hobby is that I enjoy researching and planning the next aspect of the hobby to learn about. While so much of the hobby has changed over the years (yes, I miss the "old days" too), the breadth of the hobby has increased dramatically.

It's so easy to find a niche element that can light a fire of interest, and provide a pathway to follow. In a sense, I choose to see how the hobby has expanded instead of focusing on what hobby elements have fallen by the wayside. It is not a static one-size-fits-all hobby, and I see that as a vital core strength.

Continued on next page.

2023 Dues Are Due

Dues for 2023 will be accepted by the club starting on December 2nd with the 2022 Annual Meeting. There are no changes to dues for the upcoming year. Cutoff date is March 31, 2023.

Please make checks payable to:
"Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club"
and send them to:

Bruce F Kalogera NJ2BK
163 Meadow Lane
Secaucus, NJ 07094

Please include a member application form with your check regardless of your member status.
It can be found near the back of this newsletter.

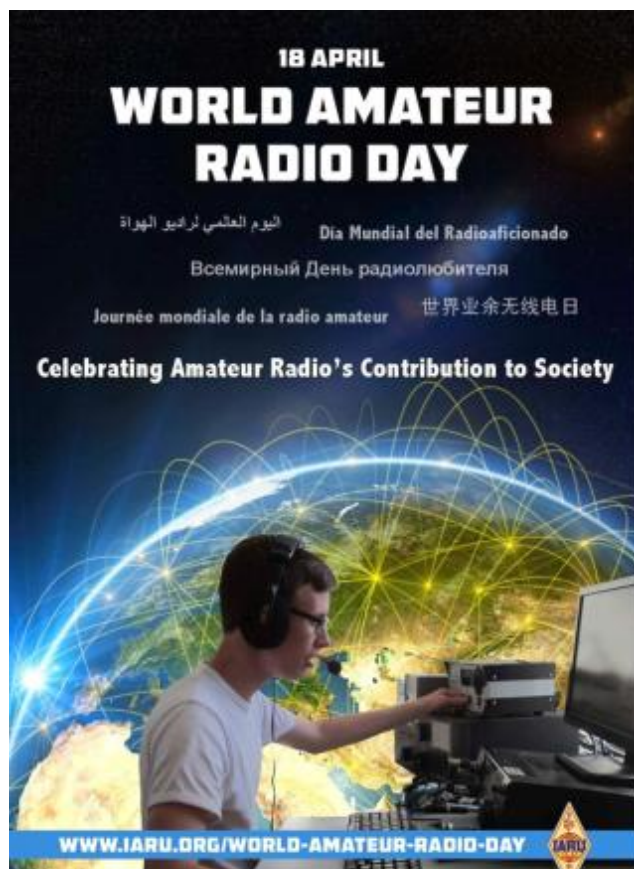


World Amateur Radio Day Is Coming! • Tuesday, April 18th!

The clubhouse will be open from 2PM until closing for this annual operating event (not a contest). We are seeking volunteer operators and may look to set up a schedule so we can keep the station on the air.

This is a casual event to promote amateur radio in recognition of the creation of the IARU (International Amateur Radio Union) in Paris in 1925.

The club will follow all borough COVID-19 requirements for this event.



Member Profile, continued

Currently, I'm just starting my education and exploration of Satellite Operations. I will not be discovering anything new; I will not be the first ham to make a satellite QSO. But it will be new to me, a first for me. And that excites me. And precisely because there are many who have paved that road before me, I can draw upon their experience and knowledge. In the end, it's the comradery of the hobby, the willingness to share knowledge that is the most attractive part of the hobby to me.

How did you first find out about FLARC?

What are your impressions of the club?

Like many good things, quite by accident. The intensity of my involvement in ham radio waxes and wanes over time, offset by other things going on in my life. Like Solar Cycle 25, I'm back in an upswing of interest and involvement with hamming. Tapping on Mr. Google's shoulder, I came across the FLARC website late in 2022. I was struck by the size, diversity and friendliness of the group. I started to subscribe to the Resonator, and attended a few Kawfee Tawks. I couldn't help but feel that I came upon a gold mine. So I didn't hesitate to join the FLARC family.

What else can you tell the club about yourself and/or ham radio?

In 1987 I got my Private Pilot License (SEL). While living in Virginia Beach, I had the opportunity to check off a life-long bucket list item. I started my ground school in July, and finished my final IA check ride in December 1987. For the next 6 years I co-owned a Piper PA-28 Cherokee, and bored more holes in the sky than I ever thought I would. Flying is a unique and endless pleasure, and an unequalled responsibility and perspective.

Up until recently, I've been riding motorcycles (Harley, of course) since the mid-1970s. For me, biking is right below flying in terms of fun. Even with bugs in your teeth, the sights and scents of seeing the world on two wheels put a big grin on my face and smile in my heart. I recently made the decision to stop riding because, despite what I tell myself, I'm not as young as I think I am. Besides, over the years I've learned there are frequently two types of car drivers: Folks who don't see you, or folks who aim for you.

Fun Fact: My great grandfather, Edward D. Easton, was President of the American Graphophone Company, and President and Founder of the Columbia Graphophone Company. And yes, the Easton Tower in Paramus once belonged to him.

What other ham related clubs or organizations do you belong to?

HamSCI (Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation): A unique collaboration between ham radio and the scientific and academic communities.

What is your favorite expression or quote?

Change is good, adaptation is better. I believe this is an expression that my wife originated. While I can't find any reference that it can be attributed to anyone else, I'll offer my apologies in advance just in case.

Nevertheless, regardless of its true ownership, it sums up the grand challenge for me. Change is inevitable, so survivability and fulfillment are dependent upon how well we adapt to those changes ... whether it's Ham Radio, or Life in general.



Mitchel Eason W2MDE



The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club

Why Is FLARC New Jersey's Most Exciting Radio Club?

Events

- Field Day
- Winter Field Day
- World Amateur Radio Day
- Portable Days
- Earth Day
- Special events
- Memorial Day parade
- Independence Day fireworks
- Fair Lawn Street Fair(s)
- Ham fests/Auctions
- Foxhunts
- Contests
- Field trips
- Annual holiday party
- ...and more!



There Is Something Every Night At FLARC!

- Monday: Near and Far Net
- Tuesday: DMR Net
- Tuesday: "Pop Up" Open House/Open Zoom
- Wednesday: ARES/RACES Net
- Wednesday: Health and Welfare Net
- Thursday: Tech Net (with BARA)
- Friday: Kawfee Tawk Speaker Series (monthly)
- Weekends: POTA and other station activations

There is Something for Everyone at FLARC!



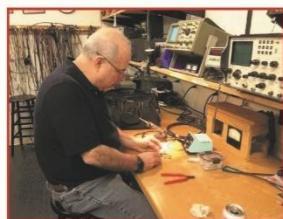
Special Interest Groups:

- Portable Ops: POTA, SOTA, etc.
- DX: Chase the rare ones
- Digital Voice: DMR and other digital modes
- FT8: And other WSJT modes
- Satellite: Also, for weather GPS interests
- Monitoring: SWL and other general listening
- And others to come!!



Plus:

- Monthly VE Testing
- An active repeater – W2NPT (linked with NJ2BS)
- New equipment in the shack
- New antennas on the roof
- A five-position operating clubhouse
- Over 72 consecutive months of speaker programs to learn and grow.



That's why FLARC is the best club around!!

Join us in our in-person and in our Zoom Room for more activities, speakers, and projects to come!

FLARC is following Covid-19 government guidance closely and all events and activities will adhere accordingly to the latest advice.

The Club Fair Lawn ARC is the fastest growing ham club around, with five operating positions in a permanent clubhouse. Visitors and guests are always welcome. The club is open every Friday night, except when there is a Kawfee Tawk scheduled, from NLT 6:30 PM. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30PM.

2023 Officers, Committees and Assignments

President	David Corsello	KD2JIP
Vice President	David Gotlib	KD2MOB
Treasurer	Bruce Kalogera	NJ2BK
Secretary	Lee Smith	KD2DRS
Trustee	Fred Wawra	W2ABE
Trustee	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
Trustee	Steve Rosman	KA2YRA
Field Day	Noel Pagan Steve Rosman Steve Wraga	W2MSA KA2YRA WA2BYX
Member Services Health & Welfare	Judith Shaw	KC2LTM
Marketing	Ed Efchak Nomar Vizcarrondo Jim Cooper Dave Corsello	WX2R NP4H W2JC KD2JIP
Program	Ed Efchak	WX2R
Video/YouTube	Thom Guida	W2NZ
Social Media	Thom Guida Dave Marotti	W2NZ NK2Q
Photographer	Giovanni Lucero	K2GIO
Community Relations	Gene Ottenheimer Dave Gotlib Ed Efchak	WO2W KD2MOB WX2R
Hamfest and Auction	Gene Ottenheimer Bruce Kalogera	WO2W NJ2BK
Education	Bill Kelly Earle "Skip" Barker Paul Brennan	NB1LL KD2BRV N6FB
Net Scheduler	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
Contests	Lowell Vant Slot	W2DLT
FLARC Historian	Fred Belghaus	W2AAB
Webmaster	Jim Cooper	W2JC
Technical	Jim Cooper Paul Cornett Brad Kerber Fred Wawra	W2JC W2IP KM2C W2ABE
RACES/ARES Director	Dave Gotlib	KD2MOB
RACES/ARES Liaison	Steve Wraga	WA2BYX
Newsletter Editor	Ed Efchak	WX2R
Newsletter Publisher	Jim Cooper	W2JC
Quartermaster	Brian Cirulnick	KD2KLN
W2NPT Trustee	Paul Cornett	W2IP
NK2H Trustee	Ed Efchak	WX2R

FLARC Does Youth Outreach

Super Science Day - Saturday, March 4th, 2023
9am - 1:30pm at Ridgewood HS, Ridgewood, NJ

This science exposition in Ridgewood High School had over 250 exhibitors and I was told it would have over 1,000 kids in attendance. We were on the 2nd floor and so I don't think we saw all thousand - but hundreds for sure (and many of their parents) heard about FLARC, and Amateur radio from our club members!

STATIONS

We highlighted the FT8 digital mode, with ongoing contacts shown on a monitor - and it's history and method detailed in a poster. Bob KD2SOG demonstrated his 2 meter rig and discussed the basics of Amateur radio. Fred W2ABE delighted kids all day with Morse code and I'm pretty sure never had an open seat. Judith KC2LTM managed the literature and let no one go away empty-handed - we emptied the table! Luisa KD2WYX engaged the youth and families straight on and commandeered them into the FLARC enclave. Dave KD2JIP showed off the Pizza box crystal radio and how simply a device can be made: 2 pieces of aluminum foil separated by paper provide the tuning capacitor. That was supported by a poster and ongoing video of the electron flow. Lee KD2DRS filled the hands of every kid possible with an HT for their first time talking on amateur radio.

We'd like to improve on the next event for kids so I have suggested the following:

- Working HF on a rig with a spectrum analyzer and getting people on the air.
- Small handout with club information, website, and an email for future contact.
- QR codes prominently displayed for Tech Test help and coaching.
- List of events both for Youth and at the Club.
- Possibly a FLARC drapery for the front of the table that should last for many years.

Attendees:

Luisa Adely KD2WYX,
Skip Barker KD2BRV,
Dave Corsello KD2JIP,
Bob Holstrom KD2BKD,
Robert Marchini KD2SOG,
Robert Merritt KC2ORX,
Judith Shaw KC2LTM,
Lee Smith KD2DRS,
Fred Wawra W2ABE

Photos on next page..



Folks, I want to congratulate Lee KD2DRS and his team for a super Super Science Saturday. Lee worked unbelievably hard to plan this event, and the results reflect the superb quality of his planning. As a result of his and the team's efforts, 35 parents signed up to receive notifications of FLARC youth events. Yeah. This is exactly what we were hoping for. In addition to planning and setting up the overall presentation, Lee ran an FT8 station that drew attention from visitors. Huge thanks Lee!

The presentation as a whole had an utterly professional appearance, with attractive posters and a layout that guided visitors to experience multiple facets of amateur radio. And as is always the case when FLARC members gather to accomplish a task, there was great teamwork, comradery and fun.

Louisa KD2WYX wins the award for sales person of the year—she guided many students and their parents not only to FLARC's presentation, but also to other nearby presentations that might otherwise have been missed. As a teacher and the mother of a current Scout, she brings invaluable experience in working with youth to the team. Thanks, Louisa.

Fred W2ABE's CW presentation was a huge success. As we all know, Captain Larry WA2ALY has made his CW presentation to youth famous. And while his shoes are impossible to fill, I know that every student who sat at Fred's table walked away with the same kind of smile that we often see on the faces of Larry's young students. Great job, Fred.

As usual, Judith KC2LTM's tremendous people skills were an invaluable asset on Saturday. I understand from Lee that through her efforts, all of our available promotional literature was distributed. I'm sure that every visitor who met Judith went away with a very positive impression of FLARC. Thanks, Judith.

Robert Marchini brought all of his technical ability and enthusiasm to the event. He assisted Lee with antenna setup, ran a 2 meter station, and exhibited tremendous talent for working with youth. With brilliant, young members like Robert among our ranks, I know that FLARC's future is bright.

Rob KC2ORX brought his technical abilities, helpful nature and knowledge of Ridgewood High School to the event. Rob was there bright and early to help Lee set up, and he worked as a floater, providing assistance where needed. Thanks, Rob.

Bob KD2BKD's experience with Scouting was also invaluable to the team. I understand that his input was very helpful to Lee. We look forward to Bob's continued assistance with our youth efforts. Thanks, Bob.

And last, but certainly not least, thanks to Skip KD2BRV for lending his abilities and support. Skip, you make every club outing interesting and enjoyable with your presence. Thanks for all you do for the club.

As FLARC's youth program continues to develop and progress, there will be tremendous opportunities for you to get involved. Please contact Lee KD2DRS for more information.

73,

Dave Corsello KD2JIP
FLARC President

2023 FLARC Kawfee Tawk Programs

Date	Presenter	Program
January 13, 2023	James Gallo KB2FMH	What It Takes to Produce A DXpedition
February 17, 2023	Ron Block NR2B	Grounding the Ham Radio Shack
March 24, 2023	Ed Efchak WX2R	The FLARC Member Survey
April 21, 2023	Dave deCoons WO2X	An Overview on Operating Flex Radios
May 19, 2023	Ron Wilcox KF7ZN	A Visit to the Sun and the Ionosphere
June 2023		
July 2023		
August 2023		
September 2023		
October 2023		
November 2023		
December 2023		



Hidetsugu Yagi's 130th Birthday Google Doodle

Follow FLARC ON THE WEB

Facebook: <http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>

Twitter: @FairLawnARC

Blog: <http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>

Youtube: <http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

Website: <http://FairLawnARC.org>

SIG Group Participation as of February 27, 2023

Here is an update on the roster of Special Interest Groups...many groups have increased in size during the last month. About 45% of all members have joined at least one group.

EMCOMM	12
Contesting	14
Digital Voice	32
Monitoring	28
DX	19
FT8	24
Satellite	20
Portable Ops	47
Raspberry pi	7
Direction Finding (NEW)	5
FLARC General	166

Sign up for a group... or ...
why not start one?

Contact webmaster@FairLawnARC.org
if you would like to start a new
Special Interest Group.

The Clubhouse Is Open Four Fridays In March!!

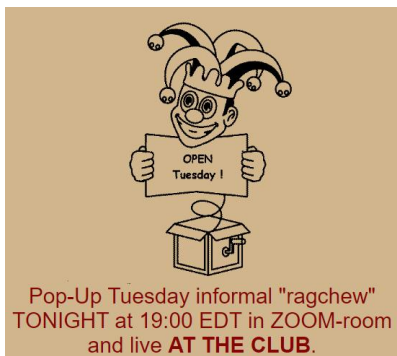
Date	Clubhouse Status
March 3	OPEN – Business Meeting
March 10	OPEN
March 17	OPEN
March 24	CLOSED – Kawfee Tawk
March 31	OPEN



And Stand-by for Other Open Days or Evenings!

**Pop-Up Tuesdays are now in-person at the club
as well as in the Zoom-room.**

The club will follow all borough COVID-19 requirements for these events.





AMATEUR RADIO TESTING BY THE FAIR LAWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

On March 11, 2023 the Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club will continue amateur radio test sessions on a modified basis.

These sessions will be held at the **Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club**.

The location is at 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn, NJ

The session starts at 9:15 AM.

A document will be provided to you prior to the date to indicate the time assigned to you.

You must have it with you to take the test.

Prior to Testing:

Send an email to wo2w@arrrl.net requesting to book your spot.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED - NO WALK-INS ACCEPTED.

Upon Arrival:

You must have a government issued ID such as a valid driver's license or passport, a filled out Form 605, and **3 filled out copies of the FCC CSCE form**.

Please Bring With You:

You **MUST** bring and WEAR personal PPE items including a face mask.

2 pens and 2 pencils. None will be provided to you, due to possible virus transmission.

Your FRN number, and (if licensed) a copy of your ham license or a valid CSCE (Certificate of Successful Completion Exam).

Additionally, the **\$15.00 exam fee**. This is payable in cash (exact amount is a must).

For information and scheduling, please contact:

Gene/WO2W

WO2W@arrrl.net



The 2023 FLARC Member Survey

It's All About Us!

Ed Efchak WX2R

March 24th

FLARC Kawfee Tawk™ Series

This year a record 125 FLARC members completed the annual member survey.

- What do club members REALLY want?
- Should we grow or are we large enough as it is?
- What programs should we be doing?
- How do we get more members to participate?

These are just a few of the questions that we will address for this members-only meeting on March 24th. As always there will be both a presentation and time for discussion, to help guide the FLARC council in making decisions for the club based on what you want.

Our presenter is Ed Efchak WX2R. Ed is the club's Public Information Officer and past Trustee. He has more than three decades of experience in research, marketing, and strategy development. Semi-retired, he is the President of *Customers by Design LLC*, a marketing and research company focused on customer development and retention in the media space. Prior to *Customers by Design*, Ed served as Vice President / Marketing at *North Jersey Media Group*, (Hackensack, NJ USA) where he was responsible for research, marketing, public/community relations, and strategic development for the company's two dailies, 42 weeklies, digital, broadcast, and special interest products and publications. Ed is Past International President of the International Newsmedia Marketing Association and the recipient of its 2010 *Silver Shovel Award* for significant and ongoing contributions to the media industry. He has served as a trustee for the National Council on Public Polls (NCP), President of the Newspaper Research Council (NRC), was a Newspaper Association of America (NAA) Research Federation Board member and the recipient of the Research Federation's prestigious *Award of Merit*. He is also a member of the *New Jersey Advertising Hall of Fame*. He is a graduate of Montclair State University and Northwestern University.

The program is on **MARCH 24TH AT 19:30 EST** and is available via Zoom for members only.

Zoom Meeting log-in information will be emailed to the membership list prior to the event.

Come with your questions and interest, as this topic is one that many have asked for.

So, save the date – **FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2023 at 19:30 AM EST** –
for this important and always timely discussion.

When you log in, please show your FIRST NAME and your CALL SIGN.

For more information, please visit the club's website at <http://www.FairLawnARC.org>
or call 201-791-3841.

Pandemic Theatre

With the formation of the Youth Committee, there has been a burst of interest in the subject.

Here is a presentation from the recent Hamcation on 'The ABC's of a YL in STEM, School Amateur Radio Clubs, and Code Coaching" by Katie Campbell, KE8LQR.

About 12 minutes:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n_C34r9b7pk

Special Note: *As non-profit, the IRS now requires that we disclose annually the use of paid lobbyists to our members and indicate approximately what percentage of their dues goes toward that. 0% of your 2021 dues payment will be used by the club to directly pay a lobbyist firm to lobby on behalf of all our members regarding pending legislation that impacts our hobby.*

Earth Day at Great Falls with Special Event Station

The club has made a commitment to participate again at Great Falls National Historical Park in Paterson, with the National Parks Service and the Passaic County School System, in the **Earth Day Clean Up and Science Expo** event.

Schools are beginning to do field trips again and they are looking to put together an event for 2023. The date chosen is **Wednesday, May 24th**.

We are planning a limited event and possibly a Special Event station, with other activities as participation allows.

Follow groups.io for more details.



FLARC to Participate in Hawthorne Environmental Day Event

The club has agreed to participate at Hawthorne High School on Saturday, April 22nd to promote the club and amateur radio.

We participated in their October event last year and had a great time!!

Get Direct With FLARC!

Here is a direct link to specific club info: just a click away!

<http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://auction.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://blog.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://calendar.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://events.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://exams.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://facebook.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://news.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://swap.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://tech.FairLawnARC.org>
<http://youtube.FairLawnARC.org>

<https://groups.io/g/FairLawnARC>



Online License Testing!

Are you looking to get your license or upgrade without leaving your home? All you need is a laptop computer with a video camera.

There are number of sites listed on hamstudy.org/sessions These folks will walk you through taking an exam online.

I have worked with both WB5QNG and AA7HW. If you have any questions, please contact me at mStevenk2sab@gmail.com

73,
Steven Boston K2SAB

FLARC Does Hamcation

A few intrepid FLARC'ers ventured to sunny Florida for Hamcation in mid February. Lucky... lucky.



L to R:
Nomar NP4H, Antonio KP4IA, an unidentified ham,
and Van W2DLT



Renew Your ARRL Dues... Send Free Money to FLARC!

The ARRL has a great program to support affiliated clubs in that it sends part of your dues back to the club if you renew through the club.

So... when you get your ARRL renewal, send both your check and your renewal application to Bruce NJ2BK, our trusty Treasurer, who will take care of getting your renewal to Newington and a fat check for \$5.00 back to FLARC.

Nothing can be simpler...
you just have to remember!!

*Print and use the
form on page 55
of this issue of*

The Resonator



Club Apparel — Get Them While They're **RED**!

Club apparel is always in vogue. Red is always "in" and your club friends all have them... you *want* a shirt or jacket for the next FLARC event! Great for Field Day!

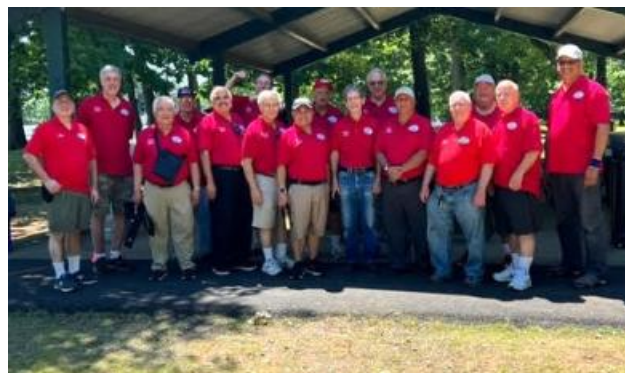
Don't forget.... they're easy to order.

Go to www.hamthreads.com

or visit <http://apparel.FairLawnARC.org>

Check out the item selection that is posted on the FLARC website (with pictures and prices). Order the shirts or other items you want with either the regular FLARC logo or the still-cool 60th anniversary logo. Note: **RED** is the primary and preferred club standard shirt color.

And why not WEAR your nice red shirt when you come to the club, especially for meetings and events.



It's easy to spot FLARC members
with their red club shirts !

Ham Radio Is Contagious And It Won't Make You Sick!!

2023 FLARC Nets On The W2NPT Repeater:

Near and Far Net Mondays at 8PM

W2NPT and NJ2BS Repeaters

The April Kawfee Tawk is at the Clubhouse!!

Dave de Coons WO2X will be the presenter in the clubhouse, at the Flex Radios, as he explains how to operate them, with hints and kinks to better your knowledge of our FB gear.

One night only starting at 7:30 PM — a special KT for sure!!

**Remember:
Ham Radio Is a Contact Sport!**

BEQUEATHS AND DONATIONS

Planned gifts usually imply the family donation of amateur equipment to the club when someone has become a Silent Key. But it can be more. Club members might consider making a gift through a will or trust; gifts that help provide lifetime income to the club. Consult with your lawyer, estate planner or tax advisor if you feel such a gift is worthy.

About The Club

The Resonator is published monthly and is the official (and only) newsletter of The Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club. FLARC was established in 1956 and has met continuously since inception. **The club is sponsored by the Borough of Fair Lawn.** The club meets every Friday, except when a *Kawfee Tawk* is scheduled, at 6PM at the club station in The Fair Lawn Community Center, 10-10 20th Street, Fair Lawn, NJ. Business meetings are the first Friday of the month at 7:30 PM at the club, and on Zoom.

Visitors ARE ALWAYS welcome at our meetings.

FLARC operates the W2NPT repeater (145.470-PL 167.9) located high atop the Community Center. The analog repeater is open to all amateurs for use without restrictions.

The club has nearly two hundred paid members. Dues are currently \$25 per year;
\$20 for new members.

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Thanks!
for your
Support!!

This is YOUR club.... Be a part of it !!

MARKETING COMMITTEE NEWS

The Publicity Committee is now the Marketing Committee and is working to spread the good words about FLARC and help get all members involved. Interested in joining?
Drop a note to wx2r@arri.net.



**FAIR LAWN'S
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER!**
With Our Antennas On The Roof!



Blood Donors Needed In This Time Of Emergency

The Red Cross and related organizations are in great need for blood donations since most corporate blood drives have been cancelled. This has become acute recently. Especially in these days of Covid.

[Communitybloodservices.com](https://www.communitybloodservices.com)

has a network of offices open during the week and would really welcome folks making appointments to donate blood.



Dear fellow Amateur Radio Operators,

The American Red Cross (ARC) in New Jersey is working on a project where Amateur Radio Operators (HAMs) would support Red Cross internal emergency communications during a disaster. Red Cross sites can be shelters, warehouses, points of distribution, family reunification centers, community reception centers, and other sites where the Red Cross is supporting disaster response and recovery missions.

We are seeking HAMs to support these sites as a backup for conventional communications that may fail during a disaster. This work is in direct support of safety of life and protection of property (47 CFR § 97.403).

Currently, we are only looking for names of operators who would be interested in helping and their location within the state. The how will come after we know the who.

We are looking for HAMs to work as partners, either as an individual or with an organized group (club, ARES, RACES). We are not looking to take anyone away from their other committed roles that they would perform for their communities.

We have split the state into three territories, North-Central-South, each containing seven counties, with communications being provided within the territories and the state.

The Red Cross will provide free disaster training to better understand what we are doing, as well as drills and exercises. Your commitment will be to attend training, drills, and exercises when you are able to and based on your ability to participate at the time that a disaster strikes.

If you are interested in helping or learning more about this opportunity to use your amateur radio license in support of emergency communications in New Jersey, please fill out the form, at the link below.

73, ARC Assist Committee

Ed K2BED • Mike KC2UOA • Peter S, not yet licensed • Bill, NB1LL

Form is at <https://forms.office.com/r/tqmB8cBV3F>

FLARC February 11, 2023 VE Testing Results

With VE testing back on schedule, Gene W02W reports the following results:

Name	Call	License Earned
Richard Niggemeier		General
Paul Zeszotarski		Technician
Melkon Urkumyan	N2VZR	General

Testing for March will be at the Fair Lawn Recreation Center - with "Covid Restrictions."

See page **Error! Bookmark not defined.** of this Resonator copy, and also the

Ten Special Interest Groups [SIGs] Already Formed: Any Others?

A new SIG—Radio Direction Finding—has started under the tutelage of Bob KD2BKD. Club interest continues to grow in the SIGs.

Another recently formed SIG is for those interested in Raspberry Pi and Arduino projects, but now includes DoItYourself (DIY)/Makers kit building, 3D printing and similar topics – also managed by KD2BKD.

A list of all of the current SIGs is shown on page 6.

Other possible groups, from the member survey, include:

- *Radio Propagation*
- *Antennas and how they work*
- *Ham radio software*

Anyone interested in leading any of these groups...?

Please contact webmaster@FairLawnARC.org



Image from May, 1926 QST, courtesy ARRL

The Way We Were

By Fred Belghaus W2AAB

The Art of Homebrew – Part 4

In last month's column, we studied the further changes in the Art of Homebrew during the 1940s. This month, we continue our look at history, and the period of the 1950s.

The 1950s – Stasis Amidst Innovation

Every decade has brought about change, some of it small and incremental, but not without some radical changes as well. The 1950s were a time when the veterans of World War II were rebuilding their lives, starting families, getting jobs and sometimes better jobs, and it was a decade during which there was an exodus from the big cities to the suburbs and outlying towns. These factors were generally favorable for amateur radio, allowing young vets to buy a home and put up better antennas than they might have had in an apartment building. It was the beginning of the age of the backyard antenna farm, and that often included the installation of antenna towers and beam antennas for HF, VHF and up.

It was also a time with the introduction of three entirely new classes of amateur license: the Novice, Technician, and Amateur Extra classes. The Novice and Technician licenses were introduced in 1951, and the Amateur Extra, in 1952. The Novice license was a one-year license, non-renewable, requiring a 5 W.P.M. code test plus some basic radio theory. It was the original "gateway" license, meant to provide an opportunity for aspiring amateurs to gain the knowledge and skill to upgrade to a higher, 5 year license.

The Technician class was a 5 year license, and renewable, with a 5 W.P.M. code requirement like the Novice class, but its intent was to promote experimentation and development of the VHF-UHF bands and higher. The original Technicians were restricted to operation on 220 Megahertz and above only. In those days, there were no commercially produced transmitters or receiving equipment for those bands, so Technicians were expected to build their station equipment. Within a few years, however, many small manufacturers would emerge to provide receiving converters and even factory built transmitters for 220 Megahertz, as well as VHF-UHF antennas. In later years, Techs were given privileges on 6 and 2 meters, and by that time, very little homebrewing was done by newly licensed Technicians, because commercial equipment was commonly available.

Continued on next page.

The Way We Were, continued.

The Amateur Extra class license was conceived as an ultimate replacement for the old “Class A” license of the 1930s and ‘40s (later re-named the Advanced class), which had been the highest class of amateur license in past years, but required an even higher level of technical knowledge, along with a more stringent code requirement of 20 W.P.M. It offered *no additional privileges*, and served more as a mark of personal achievement. As such, the Amateur Extra entitled the licensee the additional honor of having the F.C.C. issue a large Operator’s License certificate in addition to the usual small wallet sized license, as a milestone worthy of display. It looked much like the Commercial licenses of the day. Notice that it does not have a call sign shown; back then the call sign was associated with a “station license” which was issued to a specific address. Though no longer issued by the F.C.C., here’s an example:



Image: K7REX qrz.com

In the 1950s, the Extra required, in addition to the requirements listed above, a restriction that you could not even apply for the Extra unless you had already been a licensed General or Advanced Class for a minimum of *two years*. The written test was more difficult. The questions were essay type, not multiple-choice, and you had to *draw the schematics* for the circuits on the exam. In other words, you had to really KNOW the material, and not guess your way through the test. In those days, most Extras were engineers, and I have known several early Extras in this category. I suspect there were many more. All this changed, of course, by the 1960s, but I digress.

The Way We Were, continued.

But moving along, I've been hard pressed to find a single image that I can share with you of a completely homebrew station built during the 1950s, although I know with certainty that they existed. The only amateur I have personally known who had built such a station was the late Alex Knights of Teaneck, whose call was W2DZA, and who was one of the first Extra Class licensees.

Alex was a real old timer, having been first licensed in 1914, and continuously licensed since about 1932. *Every piece of HF, VHF and UHF equipment in his shack was homebrew.* He built transmitters covering 160 meters through 70 cm, a communications receiver with home built converters for every VHF band up to UHF, power supplies and AM modulators. The only station that was not completely homebrew was for 23 cm. It was a converted World War II surplus AN/APX-6 IFF Transponder, using FM mode and CW, with a 32 element collinear antenna that he had built from lengths of 1 inch solid open wire line! Not only that, but Alex could hold a solid CW QSO at 30 W.P.M. with a bug. He was truly, a ham's ham. They don't make 'em like that anymore, and I'm privileged to have known him.

I've been unable to find a picture of a completely homebrew station built by a Novice or Technician class, either. Again, I know that among the early Techs, they must have existed, and among Novices, there were some who certainly built their transmitter, sometimes their receiver also.

QST and CQ, as well as other electronic magazines published plenty of articles for beginners with details on building homebrew transmitters and simple receivers during the 1950s, whether for the Novice or Technician, but how many actually did so is unknown.

The only example of a Novice station with a homebrew transmitter that I could find is this one, the work of KN5ETJ of Corpus Christi, Texas in 1959, and it's shown below.



Image: W5SG qrz.com (ex-KN5ETJ/K5ETJ)

The Way We Were, continued.

KN5ETJ (now W5SG), built his transmitter while in high school. It used a 6AG7 crystal oscillator and an 807 final amplifier, running about 35 Watts output. His receiver was a Hallicrafters S-40A. [1], [2] Today, he does some beautiful restoration work on classic cars. See: <https://sites.google.com/site/w5sgbill/home>

Other beginners typically built some of their equipment, but generally used commercial transmitters and receivers for the remainder of their station. One example of this is a newly minted General class in 1954 with the call K2DKW, located in Fonda, New York.

Despite using a Hallicrafters receiver with a mating “S” Meter accessory, operator “Woody” Szabo used a homebrew transmitter equipped for AM phone operation.



K2DKW, Fonda, NY, showing homebrew transmitter at right in 1954

Here K2SZR, Deposit, NY [3] used a Heathkit AT-1 transmitter and an Echophone EC-1 receiver in 1957, with a homebrew screen modulator (small chassis between receiver and transmitter) for AM phone operation.



The Way We Were, continued.

A more ambitious station was built by W0UVX in 1956. The transmitter is shown at left. It consisted of a pair of 6146 finals, running 135 Watts input. The receiver, not visible in the picture, was a Hallicrafters SX-99. Several pieces of World War II surplus are also seen in the picture, along with a clearly homebrew panel with meters and loudspeakers on the upper level of the station console.



One of many high power examples follow, below. This one, from W2RGU:



W2RGU of Crosswicks, NJ (Chesterfield Township, Burlington County) combines a homebrew exciter (at right on desk) with a high power, rack mounted final stage (extreme right) and a Collins Radio receiver (75A-3 or 75A-4) and matching Collins speaker in his photo QSL. [4]

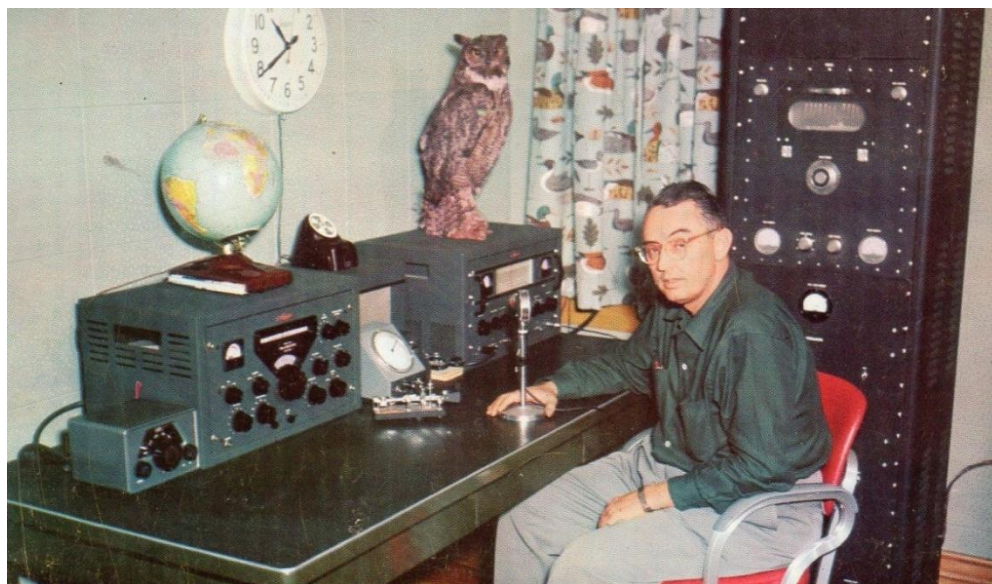
The Way We Were, continued.

An even more ambitious effort can be seen at W2UNR of Scarsdale, New York [5] in 1956.



Although his station consists of some commercial equipment (Collins VFO-exciter, Collins 51J and Hammarlund SP-600JX receivers at right), there are two racks full of homebrew equipment, including a homebrew kilowatt power amplifier (beneath the globe) and an RTTY Terminal Unit with CRT displays for proper tuning of RTTY signals, along with other accessory equipment, at left. The teletype machine at extreme left is probably a Model 15. It seems he also liked to build model aircraft!

Here's a nice color photo of W3ECR, Lancaster, PA, in 1957:



The Way We Were, continued.

In addition to an early Collins transmitter (32V-3?) and Collins receiver (75A-2?), operator Bob Hatfield [6] has built a very professional looking rack mounted kilowatt amplifier (at right). I wonder if Bob's other hobby might have been taxidermy?

Here's the station of W4SUD, Owensboro, Kentucky [7] proudly displaying his own homebrew and commercial hybrid station in 1956.



The receiver is a Hammarlund HQ-129X with an R.M.E. Preselector, flanked by an imposing rack mounted KW amplifier (inset at right). I believe the exciter-VFO is a modified Meissner Signal Shifter, which has been incorporated in the high power amplifier assembly.

A couple of ARC-5 Command Set receivers are on the top of the wall mounted shelf, with an oscilloscope, VTVM and several bound volumes of *QST Magazine*. His framed license certificate is on top of the receiver.

One of the most legendary DXers of all time was Charles Mellen W1FH of Boston (later West Roxbury), Massachusetts. He was the only known amateur to have worked and confirmed all the post-World War II DX entities, an astonishing 393 of them, and also the first to hold the first Mixed and all Phone DXCC awards. [8]

The Way We Were, continued.

Here's a shot of his magnificent station in 1956, an image that later appeared in *QST Magazine's* "How's DX" column, conducted by Rod Newkirk, W9BRD:



In addition to the Collins receiver, which I believe was a 75A-4, Mellen's homebrew rack-mount kilowatt amplifier stands tall at right. Shown at left are the tower and antenna system. Just in front of the receiver, and slightly to the right of it, is an early electronic (vacuum tube) keyer.

The DX world lost one of its greatest champions when Mellen became a Silent Key in 2006, after a prolonged period of declining health. [9] I worked "Chas" too, when we were both members of the F.O.C. (Firstclass CW Operator's Club), back in 1979 - as this QSL testifies (when I had a previous call):

**SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND
DX ASSOCIATION**

W1FH

CHARLES MELLEN
28 WOODLEY AVE.
BOSTON, MA. U.S.A. 02132
SUFFOLK COUNTY
FOC 834

CONFIRMING QSO

STATION	DATE			TIME	FREQ	2WAY	RST
	DAY	MO.	YEAR	UTC	MHZ		
WB2CST	4	II	79	2053	14	A1	559

☐ PSE QSL ☒ TNX QSL 73 "Chas"

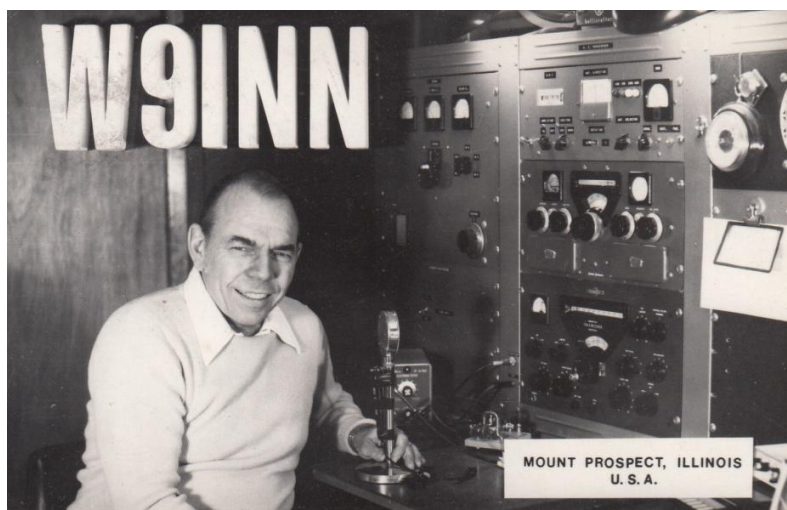
The Way We Were, continued.

One frequently seen feature of 1950s ham stations was an effort to “build-in” their equipment, either as part of a console, wall, or desktop. Here’s an example of a desktop installation from KØDBU of Omaha, Nebraska [10] in 1960:



The two units at lower right under the operating desk are the transmitter (exciter stage) below, and the power amplifier stage directly above it. An educated guess as to the power would be several hundred Watts output from the amplifier stage.

A very neat “shack in a rack” approach was taken by W9INN in this 1950s photo QSL, showing his integration of commercial gear with a homebrew amplifier stage (at left). The commercial gear includes a Central Electronics 100-V exciter with a Collins receiver (possibly a 75A-4). The Central Electronics 100-V was one of the first SSB transmitters sold. It was an advanced design that even included a small CRT display for monitoring the modulation envelope. A homebrew station control panel is installed just above the exciter.



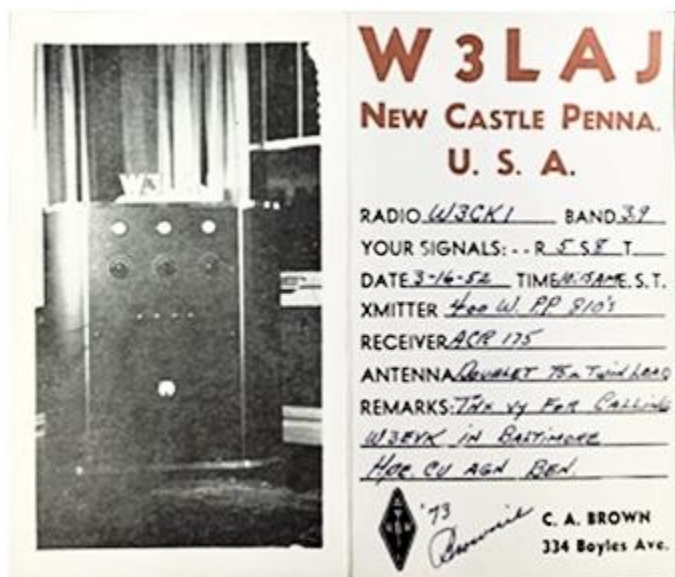
The Way We Were, continued.

In a first example of homebrew VHF equipment is this image of W1TXL in 1960:



In addition to the Barker & Williamson 5100 transmitter and R.M.E. 4350A receiver for HF is a homebrew 6 meter transmitter using a 6146 final (center, beneath lamp) and what is probably a homebrew ATU with roller inductor directly beneath it. The 6 meter receiving converter used (not visible in picture) was made by Tecraft, a company specializing in VHF equipment, once located in Hackensack, NJ.

Our next example is an anomaly, and a curious one. W3LAJ in 1952 shows his own version of a "console" approach, but his looks more like a 1930s console broadcast band radio. It is made of wood that has been specially formed, giving it a rounded, art deco look.



The card describes the transmitter as running 400 Watts from a pair of 810s operating in push-pull. The receiver (not shown) was an R.C.A. Model ACR-175, a popular model introduced in the 1930s.

The Way We Were, continued.

Here's a more conventional, rack panel construction method, and a quite impressive one, from the station of W4HHK and W4UDQ [11] Colliersville, Tennessee, in the mid 1950s.



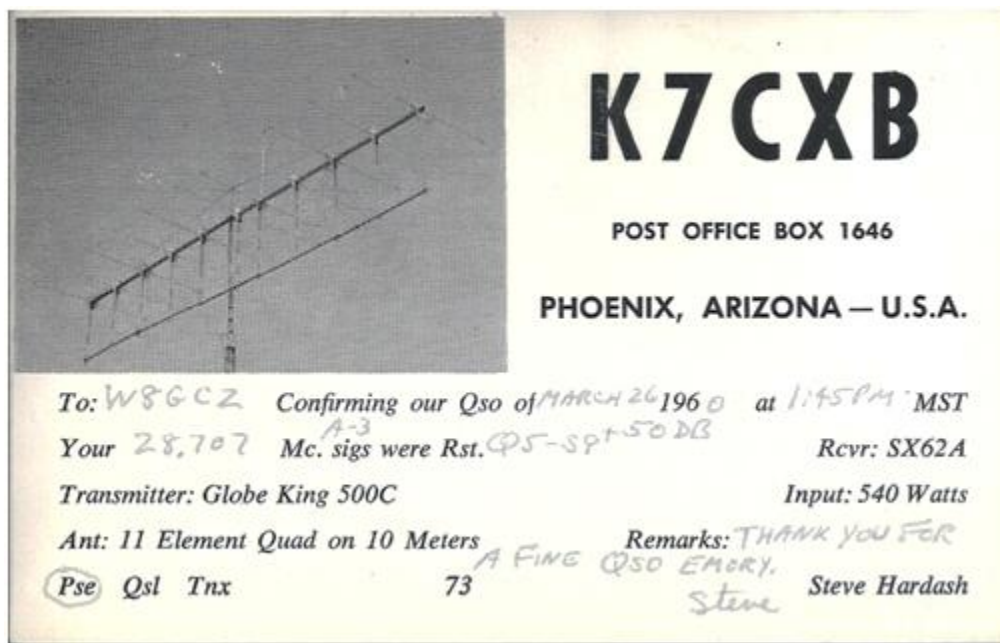
Chief operator Paul W4HHK shows his nearly all homebrew station. W4HHK was once a prominent VHF operator, and author of technical articles in VHF specialist publications; so some of that neatly constructed rack mounted equipment must have been high power equipment for 6 meters and above.

So far, we've seen examples of the usual homebrew equipment: transmitters, mainly, but also various types of associated equipment, like a simple screen modulator for adding AM phone to a CW only commercial transmitter, or station control panels for switching from one rig to another, one receiver to another, etc., customized to the needs of the operator.

But hams didn't only build equipment of this kind during the 1950s, or at any other time before or since. Most hams built their own antennas, usually of wire, or Yagi beams, for HF and VHF-UHF.

The Way We Were, continued.

Here's another antenna builder who built something a bit less conventional.



K7CXB's QSL from 1960 shows his homebrew quad antenna. Quads were typically two or three elements, but K7CXB built one for 10 meters that outdoes them all.

His quad sports *eleven elements!* That would still make for a pretty big antenna, one much larger and more challenging to build than most any other, while remaining practical.

In later years, some VHF operators discovered the value of quads, and typically, 4 to 8 elements for 2 meters and up were well within the capabilities of many hams to build and get working properly. At one time, somebody built a 2 element 6 meter quad for FLARC. I don't know what became of it, and it would be interesting to see how well it would work today compared with a 3 element Yagi or two element Moxon.

I remember seeing a multi-element quad for 70 cm in *73 Magazine* that had many elements, but it was huge, and probably picked up a lot of wind resistance. Quads are seldom used on VHF-UHF today — one of their downsides I suspect would be the relative difficulty in keeping them up in icy weather — just like on HF.

This month, we've seen a trend that started in the 1940s: the appearance of commercial equipment alongside the homebrew equipment in many ham stations. Not much changed in the 1950s, except for the use of miniature 7 and 9 pin tubes in receivers and as the driver stages of low to medium power transmitters. This trend continued in the 1960s, and as time went on, more and more commercial equipment was used by amateurs.

The Way We Were, continued.

By the late 1960s, it became quite rare to see *any* homebrew equipment of any kind at ham stations, except for specialty items not normally available from commercial sources. Some examples of these were RTTY terminal units (a kind of modem for radio teletype), electronic keyers – especially if solid state, Fast Scan and Slow Scan TV equipment, special VHF UHF and microwave equipment, early digital equipment, and special, experimental antennas for 160 meters on up.

But some of us never stopped building, even now.

Next month, we're going to spin ahead and take a look at some of today's homebrew artists, and some of their amazingly professional workmanship.

Until next month, 73,

Fred W2AAB

NOTES:

[1] W5SG page at: <https://www.qrz.com/db/W5SG>

[2] *Radio Amateur Call Book Magazine*, Winter, 1960, at:
https://archive.org/details/Winter_1960_Radio_Amateur_Callbook/Winter_1960_Radio_Amateur_Callbook_District_5/page/n13/mode/2up

[3] *Radio Amateur Call Book Magazine*, Fall, 1957, p. 75, at:
https://archive.org/details/Fall_1957_Radio_Amateur_Callbook/Fall_1957_Radio_Amateur_Callbook_District_2/page/n41/mode/2up

[4] Op. Cit., p. 70

[5] Op. Cit., p. 79

[6] Op. Cit., p. 94

[7] Op. Cit., p. 157

[8] "Tribute to Charles Mellen W1FH," at: <http://hamgallery.com/Tribute/W1FH/>

[9] Ibid

[10] *Radio Amateur Call Book Magazine*, Winter, 1960, p. 495, at:
https://archive.org/details/Winter_1960_Radio_Amateur_Callbook/Winter_1960_Radio_Amateur_Callbook_District_0/page/n7/mode/2up

[11] *Radio Amateur Call Book Magazine*, Spring, 1956, pp. 131, 144, at:
https://archive.org/details/Spring_1956_Radio_Amateur_Callbook/Spring_1956_Radio_Amateur_Callbook_District_4/mode/2up

2022-2023 FLARC ACTIVITY CALENDAR

Tuesday, April 18th, 2023

Saturday, June 10th, 2023

June 24 – 25, 2023

World Amateur Radio Day [ops from club]

FLARC Hamfest

Field Day 2023

If in doubt about any event, consult calendar at <https://fairlawnarc.groups.io/g/main/calendar>

Ed - itorial : First Contact

As the pictures and brief story in last month's Resonator indicated, the first in-person meeting with our new partner club (WPBARG) in West Palm Beach went extremely well.

I had the opportunity to attend two of their monthly picnics (which serve as the equivalent of Portable Days for us) and attended two monthly meetings. At the January meeting I was invited to be their guest speaker. I discussed our club's history, background, and membership. I also outlined what we think we would like as a partnership, which focused on discussing bringing more younger people to our club, an outline for ongoing communications between us and a possible joint event.

WPBARG's objectives are similar to ours in finding more young hams, having common events and discussions. They are also interested in developing POTA within their club. It was a lively discussion and I found them to be enthusiastic and looking forward to what we can do together.

As of this writing, we have agreed on a few starters:

- Lee KD2DRS has already reached out to Randy KO4WTM on what they have done in youth development to accompany our first formal committee meeting on the topic.
- WPBARG President Mike K1WX will designate a POTA point person and we will do the same to get that ball rolling,
- We have posted our newsletter and Kawfee Tawk announcements on their message board to get them informed and involved in what we do.
- We will offer our Monday Near and Far net to WPBARG members and hopefully create some new friends there.
- And on 25 February we will have the first contact between W2NPT and WPBARG, as they operate portable from John Prince Park in Lake Worth. [not a POTA site]

Ed - itorial, continued.

I find this to be exciting stuff and I hope that you do as well. As I have often said, all clubs are tribes. Local tribes have different cultures and often do not mesh well together. But distanced by one thousand miles, we have the opportunity of objectivity with common fraternal characteristics and none of the local biases that tend to follow clubs around.

We are both growing clubs with different starting points. We can be as close or as distant as we want but we can work together to solve common problems together and have fun at the same time.

That is what it is all about... yes??

— Ed WX2R



The GREAT FLARC 2023 HAMFEST!!

Save The Date!
Saturday, June 10, 2023



Digital Voice SIG Update



DigiVoice@FairLawnARC.groups.io

A Special Interest Group SIG for those interested in Digital Voice modes (Digital Mobile Radio) communications and software.

DMR nets are becoming more active on Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm, Bradmeister TalkGroup 310015 only. Those with DMR radio and hotspot are welcome to join in.

Those who would like to but do not know how, join the group and ask, we will help. We would like to thank Brad for the use of TG 310015.

There is also a FLARC "digital-voice" channel on slack for "real time chat" and a sub-group on our host at

<https://FairLawnARC.groups.io/g/DigiVoice/>

For those interested in joining all the Digital Voice excitement, go to the club website <http://FairLawnARC.org> and use the "Join Special Interest Group(s)" link on the left.



Radio Monitoring Special Interest Group Update

monitoring@FairLawnARC.groups.io

A Special Interest Group SIG for those interested in SWL and other radio communications monitoring.

In this month's Monitoring column I would like to visit what lots of us consider our radio roots, what started us in the path of having fun with all types of communication.

Back in the 60s I discovered AM broadcast band DXing. I remember sitting in front of my grandmothers 1940s vintage console radio-phonograph and discovering the magic of night time DX on the standard broadcast band.

I would listen to all the clear channel stations from all over the nation as well as the lower power regional and graveyard stations. In addition there were stations from Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean that made their way to my Clifton, New Jersey listening post.

After a few years of knob twiddling, my knowledge grew along with my DXing experience and I wanted to try to get what I considered the holy grail of broadcast band DXing, hearing Europe from the east coast of the US. I didn't live at the Jersey shore or at a prime transatlantic DX location, nor did I have anything like a beverage or some other exotic antenna for the broadcast band.

Despite the conditions stated above, I snagged my first transatlantic in the mid 80s. It was Radio Tirana Albania on a split frequency of 1395KHz. Later in the 90s I was living in Metuchen and was able to hear Radio NRK from Norway on 1314KHz, with their one megawatt blaster – using a stock Sony 2010 with the filter in the narrow position.

For those of you still attempting to hear your first transatlantic stations on the broadcast band, here are a few valuable pointers.

Here in the Americas we live in ITU region two and broadcast stations are on 10KHz channels from 530 to 1700KHz. In the rest of the world the AM

Continued on next page.

Radio Monitoring SIGroup, continued.

broadcast band uses 9KHz spacing. This gives the smart DXer an edge in attempting to hear stations from outside ITU region two on a clear frequency; particularly if you have a receiver equipped with narrow filters.

When scanning the broadcast band, if you hear heterodynes that is a sign of non-standard out of ITU region stations and propagation for transatlantic stations is good.

One of your first targets to try is Radio Absolute from the UK on 1215KHz. Get them while you can as they may be downsizing their presence on AM or shutting off their AM service all together in the near future.

You can tune to 1520KHz WWKB in Buffalo, New York. If you hear a 1KHz heterodyne mixing with their signal that is the megawatt station located in Saudi Arabia on 1521KHz. They are around six thousand miles away.

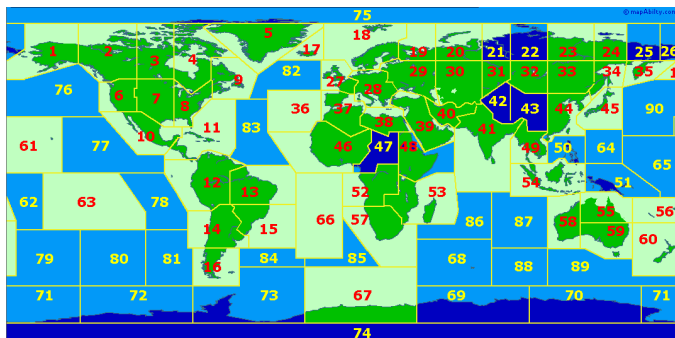
Good luck in hearing your first transatlantic stations on the broadcast band. If you are successful, let me know. I will mention you in a future Monitoring column.

Now that we are in the winter season it is a good time to try broadcast band DX.

If there is anything you wish me to cover from the world of Monitoring feel free to let me know. If you have any questions, comments or criticisms let me know as well. You can E-Mail me at dmarthouse@gmail.com

73 and good DXing.

de Dave N2AAM



ITU [International Telecommunications Union] zones

Separated at Birth

The February WPBARG meeting brought together the reunion of Tony N2SIQ and Ed WX2R. Tony is living in south Florida now and is the WPBARG Field Day chair.



L to R: Tony N2SIQ and Ed WX2R

Field Day Rule Change

There was a recent proposal by the ARRL to change the point structure for contacts made on Field Day.

The proposal would have made both Phone and CW contacts worth 1 point each, a departure from the rules for many years, which established that CW contacts are worth 2 points each. The meeting to decide this issue was held on March 2nd, 2023.

We have received confirmation from our Hudson Division Director, Ria Jairam N2RJ, that this proposal was defeated, and that the existing point rules will continue to apply for Field Day 2023.

There was widespread opposition to the proposal from ARRL members, but thanks are also due to Ria for expressing further opposition to the proposal, and for helping keep the point structure as it has been.

— Fred W2AAB

FLARC and WPBARG — First Club-to-Club Contact!

FLARC and our sister club in West Palm Beach made their first contact on February 25th at 1530 UTC on 14.321 MHz. For WPBARG, it was part of their monthly “Saturday in the Park” portable ops day at John Prince Park in Lake Worth, FL.

Every member of both clubs who wanted to be on the air did so and the combined QSOs lasted nearly 90 minutes. K1WX and WX2R also were interviewed for the *Ham Radio Concepts* podcast on the club partnership. A great day for both clubs!!



L to R: Ed WX2R, Randy KO4WTM and Mike K1WX



Randy KO4WTM at station 2. Note the palm trees!!



L to R: Marco KK4OPI and Randy KO4WTM
Make historic first contact with Nomar NP4H
and Dave KD2JIP at FLARC



Kevin KM4RYN and Ed KN4ZAA discuss satellite QSOs



FLARC and WPBARG—First Contact!

This is how it looked from Fair Lawn for our first working contact with the West Palm Beach Amateur Radio Group on February 25th. A thanks to all our “first contacters” Nomar NP4H, Dave KD2JIP, Steve WI2W, Robert KC2ORX, Robert KD2SOG, Noel W2MSA, Jim N2JLF, Skip KD2BRV, Lee KD2DRS and Ed WX2R in Lake Worth, FL.



President Dave KD2JIP at the mike



Noel W2MSA at the mike with Steve WI2W



The FLARC first contact crew!!



Steve WI2W with Nomar NP4H



Dave KD2JIP



Steve WI2W

Hamshack Hotline

Bob Holstrom – KD2BKD

Hamshack Hotline

By Robert Holstrom – KD2BKD

Hamshack Hotline was brought to my attention by Greg, K1UH during a FLARC Digital Voice SIG Net.

Hamshack Hotline is a VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) telecommunications service, similar to one used at corporations, but repurposed for the use for ham radio stations. The VOIP handsets/speakerphones have an extension to be able to call other ham radio stations via internet connection directly.



Proof of amateur radio license is required to get the information to be able to setup VOIP phone connected to Hamshack Hotline. Softphone are not supported initially.

Hamshack Hotline has the ability to have extensions to go to RF. This can be done via AllStar RF nodes. The hotline is also linked to the AREDN MeshPhone server N2MH.

I am not sure how popular Hamshack Network will become as there is a learning curve to learn how to setup a phone to this system after a compatible VOIP phone is found. It is very interesting to use old obsolete equipment as another way to communicate between radio shacks and have connections similar to EchoLink to repeaters via AllStar node.

For more information: <https://hamshackhotline.com/>

Around the Shack

Hal Kennedy N4GG

Split Bolts

Am I the last one to discover split bolts? I'd been a ham for over 50 years and a practicing EE for over thirty years when I discovered split bolts. They are either not well known outside the electric power industry or I have been living under a rock, or both.

Anyway, I'm glad I finally discovered these handy objects that have been right in front of me my entire life.

Let's get right to it – see Figures 1 and 2. Those are split bolts. The name and picture are fully descriptive. A split bolt is a bolt with a slot and a nut with a keeper that rides the bolt. Two or more wires can be placed in the slot and the nut tightened to make a splice or a tap.



Figure 1 A typical split bolt.



Figure 2 A typical split bolt.

Figures 3 and 4 show a typical splice.



Figure 3 A split bolt splice.



Figure 4 A split bolt splice.

Being oblivious to the utility company split bolts placed around my house, it fell to ham radio for my introduction. I discovered split bolts in a junk box on a hamfest table. At 50 cents each, they looked like a cheap-enough investment for something I might want in my junk box. I came home with a handful. My mindset at that moment: "These are cool, they must be good for something."

You may see one on the ground wire going from your service entrance box (or meter housing) to a ground rod. Tapped onto that wire, there may be a second wire heading off to a CATV, telephone or other secondary utility box. That connection is usually done with a split bolt, as the secondary utility company will not cut a power-company-installed ground wire.

Around the Shack, continued

Figures 5 and 6 show a tap.



Figure 5 A split bolt tap.



Figure 6 A split bolt tap.

Split bolts are used extensively by electric utility companies. You may have some on your premises. A common application on older homes is shown in Figure 7. At the service entrance of homes with above-ground power, a splice must occur where the wires from the home (the service head) join the wires from the street (the service drop). This splice is often done with split bolts.

Sometimes the split bolts are covered with tape (Figure 8). The tape of choice is Scotch Rubber Mastic number 2228. See *Around the Shack*, February 2022 for a discussion of this and other tapes.

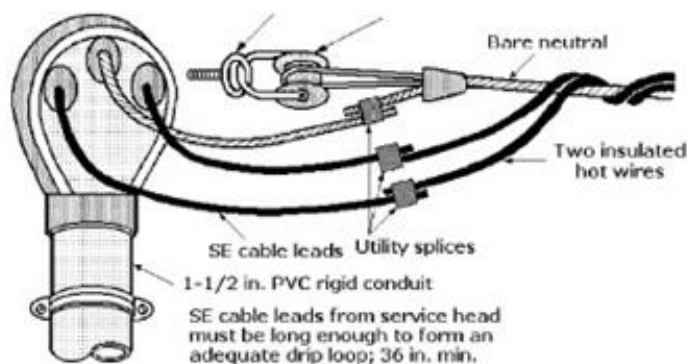


Figure 7
A utility service connection – often using split bolts.

It turns out they are good for lots of things, with wire antenna projects on the top of my list. Figure 9 (Source: ARRL Antenna Book) shows the preferred method to connect a feedline to a dipole antenna. In this drawing it's implied the connection of the antenna to the coax is soldered. Split bolts at this location might be a better choice however. Future tasks including replacing coax, replacing broken wires and adding wires for another band will be easier with split bolts in lieu of soldering.



Figure 8
Scotch 2228 used to cover split bolts.

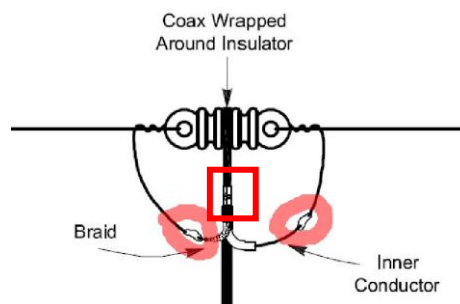


Figure 9 Connecting coax to a dipole.
A good use for split bolts.

Around the Shack, continued

Note the connections in Figure 9 are not under tension. The wires are wrapped back on themselves and the coax is wrapped around the center insulator and clamped with a split bolt for mechanical integrity. Solder and split bolts should not be used to carry mechanical loads.

Where can you get some you might ask? Besides hamfests, all the usual suspects carry them - Home Depot, Lowes and Amazon for starters. Being an electric utility item, they can be readily found at Grainger and Graybar. You can Goggle “electrical supply companies near me” and find more sellers. Split bolts are easier to acquire than most ham radio antenna parts.

A word is in order about types. Split bolts come in a myriad of sizes and materials, designed for a myriad of applications. They are commonly made of copper, bronze, aluminum and copper plated bronze. The materials are selected to match the wires needing connection. Aluminum split bolts are for aluminum wire, etc. Some are designed to join dissimilar wires, such as copper to aluminum (Figure 10). Others are NOT suitable for this. Read the specifications before you purchase.

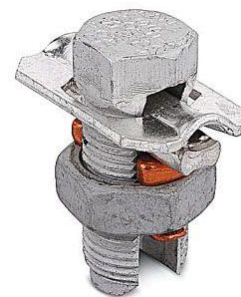


Figure 10 A split bolt for connecting copper and aluminum wire.

Regarding tightening - these things are rugged! I have put large wrenches on them and tightened them with all my strength – they easily survive that. Getting wires into good contact are what they are for. No doubt there are torque specs. For hams, my approach has been “as tight as I can make it.”

One more consideration - most split bolts are larger than what we hams need. Some are huge – think about joining a pair of wires 2 inches in diameter – the sort you might find supplying 3 phase 440 VAC to an office building. If you look in the catalogs you will see split bolts for that sort of application. For we hams, the question is how small do they make them? I can readily find ones designed for #14 wire and I think hams would be okay using those for #16 and #18. Finding any smaller may be difficult or impossible. This is power company stuff after all. Ham radio grounding systems often use wire sizes between #2 and #8. Split bolts are ideal for that size and application.

Split bolts are not fussy - they are tolerant of the sort of installation lapses attributable to hams. I have over torqued them, under torqued them, used the wrong size, used the wrong type for copper wire and used them on Dacron line (Figure 11). They are designed to be outdoors in the elements. Use your imagination and don't use them to secure tower guy wires!

I'm sticking with my first impression.
These are cool and good for something!

73,

Hal N4GG/4



Figure 11 Split bolts used to splice Dacron line. Note the use of knots to backstop the connection.

Satellite Special Interest Group Update

Satellite-SIG@FairLawnARC.groups.io

A Special Interest Group SIG for those interested in amateur radio satellites, as well as others like weather, GPS, etc..

We welcome everyone interested in all types of satellite communications. Some interests are AMSAT, ARISS, receiving weather maps from satellites, APRS via ISS, and much more.

Status of ISS ham radio stations as of February 23, 2023:

Columbus Module radio:

Kenwood D710GA (CONFIGURED) mode is for cross band repeater (145.990 MHz up {PL 67} & 437.800 MHz down). It is powered off during docking and undocking of crafts.

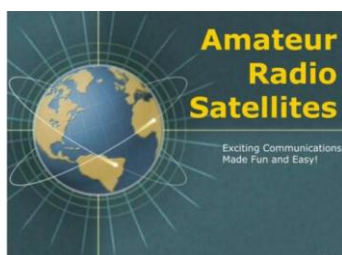
Service Module radio:

Kenwood D710GA (CONFIGURED) mode is for packet operations APRS (145.825 MHz up & down). It is powered off during docking and undocking of crafts.

For current status of ARISS:

<https://www.ariss.org/current-status-of-iss-stations.html>

For those interested in joining Satellite-SIG, just go to the club website www.FairLawnARC.org and use the "Join Special Interest Group(s)" link on left.



In A Nutshell



In a nutshell the weather has been crazy, but what do you expect?

After all we have been monitoring weather somewhat scientifically for only about 300 years and that is only a small fraction of time. Climate change is nothing new; look at the ice ages and the mini-ice age in the medieval times! That one and most likely the next was due to cooling of the sun and another one was due to a volcanic eruption.

A past study has come to my attention that earth temperature cycles have mostly been determined by the sun itself. The sun produces a lot of heat but it is 93 million miles away, so a small change up there produces a larger change down here. I marvel that something so far away can have so much effect on our daily lives.

That gets me to propagation. Lately on 75 meters where I hang out the band conditions have been drastically different from day to day.

To get back to the weather, I hope that spring comes soon so we can all go outside in comfort again. It was amazing to see several feet of snow in southern California! They need the water, so I hope it helps. The Colorado River is at a historically low level and hopefully the mountain snow will help there too. The only danger due to the amount of snow is flash floods.

This has been a little different Nutshell, but I hope it has been interesting.

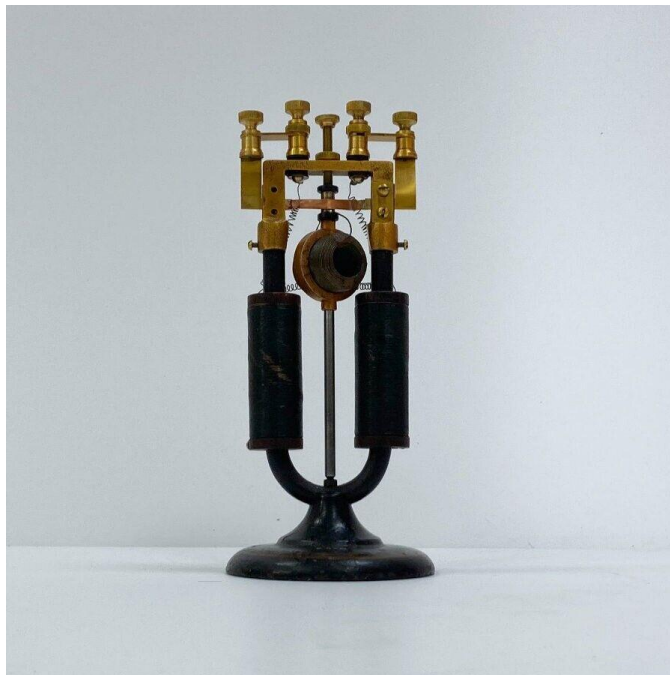
73,

Fred Wawra, W2ABE



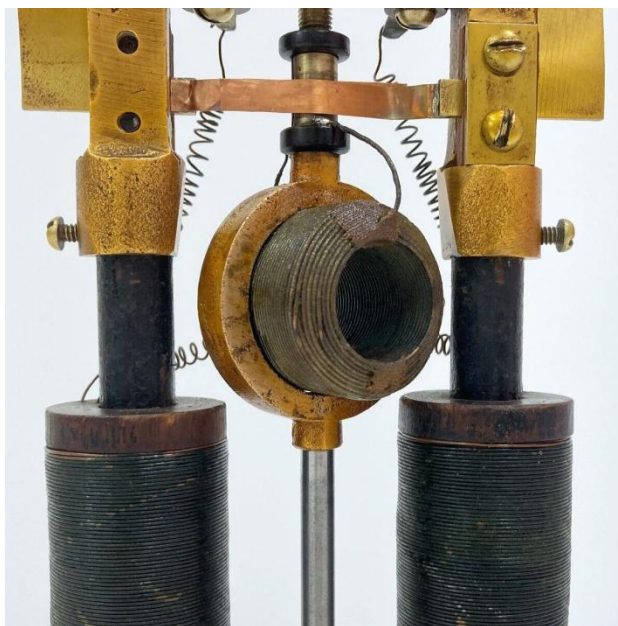
What Is It? – Answer To Last Month's Question

By: Fred Belghaus W2AAB



Well, our usual respondents were pretty much stumped by this one, but the guesses were good – only restrained by not “thinking outside the box.” It doesn’t look like what it is, so you’d have to break it down to its constituent parts. What do we see?

We see two stationary electromagnets and a ball shaped object with a coil of wire wound on it which is mounted on a shaft. Here’s a closer look at that ball shaped object....



What Is It? – Answer To Last Month's Question, continued

Those electromagnets are wound on wooden forms with soft iron cores inside. That shaft tells us that the ball shaped object would rotate when a current is applied to energize the two electromagnets. So what could this thing be?

If you think of the ball shaped object with wire wound on it as an armature, you've got the answer. It's described as a "George Grafton Page type revolving electromagnet, or Page's Revolving Ring," in other words, an electromagnetic motor. It was made around 1850.

The inventor was Charles Grafton Page, who studied medicine in the early 1800s, became a physician but began conducting experiments in electricity and electromagnetism. He was a contemporary of Joseph Henry and Michael Faraday, and holder of many patents.

He later joined the United States Patent Office, and remained in his position for twenty years.

Unfortunately, the totality of Page's scientific achievements will never be known. Page worked at the Patent Office during the Civil War period, and one day in 1863, a group of Union soldiers entered Page's laboratory and senselessly destroyed his apparatus, experiments and notes. Then, after the War ended in 1865, some of his inventions which had been donated to the Smithsonian Institution were also destroyed in a fire.

Just three years later, suffering ill health and marginalization by much of the established scientific community, Charles Grafton Page died at the age of 56.

For further reading about this American electrical pioneer, see below.

SOURCES:

<https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/325450503158?hash=item4bc65c93f6:g:wKkAAOSw4bxjjUlz>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Grafton_Page

73,

Fred W2AAB

What Is It? – March, 2023

By: Fred Belghaus W2AAB

What is it? – March, 2023

By: Fred Belghaus W2AAB



This month, we see a bunch of strange looking objects.
Only one hint this time: They were once commonly used in radio equipment.

But what kind of radio equipment,
what was their function,
and when were they most commonly used?

Simple, huh? Maybe not, but give it a whirl.

73,

Fred W2AAB

DX Special Interest Group Update



DX News from a fellow FLARCer

As some of you reading this may already know, I was involved in logistics for the now infamous 3Y0J Expedition to Bouvet Island last month.

It began on the flight to Anchorage with Adrian K08SCA as we headed to the Kiska Island Expedition (K7K) last July. I've known Adrian for a number of years, as we are both founding members of the New York DX Association (W2NDX) and did some special event work together; but nothing brings people together like 11 hours on planes and 40 hours at sea!

Adrian was slated to be one of the operators for 3Y0J and had been assigned a task – as each member was. His was to produce a device that would allow the turning of Yagi antennas without a powered rotor. This was for two reasons: any rotor that would survive the climate there would be very big, heavy and consume a lot of power from the generator; so in an effort to shave weight and conserve fuel they needed something manual but sturdy.

Adrian knows I am in the mechanical contracting field and often build things with pipe for unique conditions; so he asked if I would help. Being the old Boy Scout that I am, I said of course - without question.

We passed the time on the flights (NY to Anchorage, then Anchorage to Adak Island – where the ship was waiting to bring us to Kiska) by brainstorming ideas and making sketches on napkins – like all good engineers do when squeezed into a flying sardine can!

We discussed it further as the days passed and we had downtime on the Island (we also bunked together on Kiska) and upon our return we set about building a prototype.

He brought the sample to Norway for a station-build practice session, to vet the equipment, and our device did not work as planned. In discussing this with him and Ken LA7GIA, the primary team leader, it was decided I'd meet Ken in NYC (he'd be coming in for personal business) in November to discuss the failure and work up another version to make it functional. After a five hour cheeseburger lunch, we had come up with a design we knew would work well. I revised the design sketch, dimensioned it and labeled each piece with the resources to acquire them.

Adrian procured all materials and we built two of them for the final use on the island. I was excited to have helped, even in this small way, to make sure they were successful in pointing signals where propagation was, so all could have the chance at making contact.

Another way I helped was twofold: As a volunteer with the popular POTA program, I have gotten Bouvet added to our database as an entity – being it is a Norwegian Wildlife Refuge. This would bring in the 33,000 plus members who may not otherwise be DX or Island chasers, for a coveted ATNO (All Time New One). This idea spawned the next, which was to solicit support from the POTA community. I regularly posted short blurbs on the POTA social media sites reminding folks that the expedition needed help to succeed and with a big push in the days leading up to their departure the POTA family came through, not only reaching the budget figure but exceeding it by over 10,000 dollars!

As for myself, well, I of course wanted to get some band fills and began to plan my hunting station. I decided I would setup at a Scout Camp I often visit which is 'RF Quiet' and just over 2,000 feet above sea level. I secured a cabin on a lake for two weeks and began to conceive the station.

The first thing I did was get a new amplifier, having recently blown out an old Yaesu tube-type amp some weeks before. I'd chosen the popular SPE-Expert 1.3K-FA because of its ability to provide full output with 110 volts power, all I had available in the cabin at camp.

I then went on the device an antenna array of one Zero Five multiband vertical, one 40 meter double bazooka dipole, two multiband OCF wires, one EFHW tuned for 80m and a vertical wire adjustable for 15, 17 and 20 meters. I occupied a lot of real estate!

My timing was just right, as the team was just getting to the island as I was leaving NYC to go to the cabin.

Following the news of the adventure on Facebook, posted by their local 'Pilot' Steve N2AJ, as well as some sporadic messages from Adrian and Ken via a Garmin InReach device, I began to worry. While reading that environmental conditions were prohibiting a safe landing, delaying the start of the operation, I was still hopeful. I built my station with anticipation of getting in the log on many bands.

Now the sad part of the story: When they first went live after a grueling landing and station setup, greatly reduced thanks to mama nature, I was given the notice

Continued on next page.

and tried like the devil to copy them. I only use phone mode so in listening to the 15 meter frequency I was informed of, I heard nothing; not a peep above the less than S-1 noise. With them having just a 100 watt radio and a wire vertical on the southeast side of the island mountain, I wasn't hearing anything on any of my antennas! I was of course disappointed but hoped it would get better as they put up more wire and got on different bands.

Ever the Optimist, I sat at the radio day and night, listening to the notorious 'Up Police,' the Europeans calling over whoever did manage to hear them and of course the ever present deliberate malicious interference (DQRM as we call it).

Not to totally waste time, I did manage to get a lot of needed band fills, collect some special event stations and hunt a good number of POTA Parks – to the surprise and joy of the activators, who are accustomed to hunting Me during my own activations. I normally do not hunt parks, just activate when I get time; and many of them recognized my voice and were happy to get me in their log for once.

During the ten days of radio play, I think I "may" have heard their CQ once, just barely through the mess, but did not waste my time adding to the din of callers screaming callsigns like they were waiting to be called for the lottery or something.

Knowing I did the best I could to be a part of it, I enjoyed the time in camp in other ways. We had a campfire each night, drove around the back roads looking for yard sales and watching the wildlife that abounds in the secluded forest around us. I even put in time for one of my own special events, the K2C **Childhood Cancer Awareness Day** on Feb 15, along with the dozen or so operators I had secured to operate – before heading to the camp the week prior.

I do not feel the expedition was a failure, as many do. I know firsthand what it takes to land on an island in rough seas, from my experience at Kiska in the veritable middle of the Bering Sea. That is known as one of, if not the, roughest bodies of water on the planet. The difference between Kiska and Bouvet was that we landed in a natural harbor, or cove, made by a partially collapsed volcanic rim. We only had 1 meter waves getting to shore and were able to make it with just a few yards of "swimming" from the Zodiac.

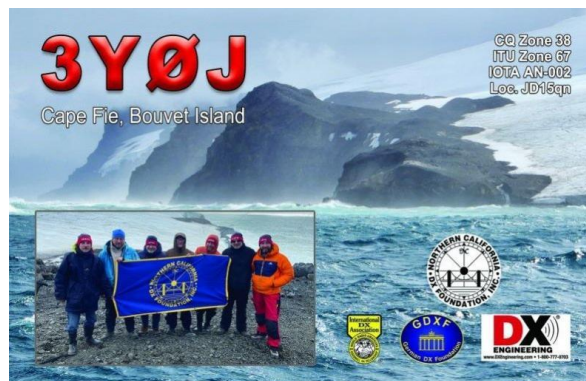
What I am disappointed with is that my manual rotator device never got to see action after the many hours spent refining the design & Adrian's & my time fabricating them!

Someone suggested I patent the design for future expeditions to use, so that is something I will look into. In the meantime I am preparing for another expedition to an IOTA entity in Cuba for the 30th anniversary of the Russian Robinson Club, of which I am a member.

It is not a coveted DXCC location, but at least we won't be risking death again or freezing in the rain as was on Kiska and Bouvet. This time I'll be in shorts and a T shirt operating comfortably from a beach resort with real beds, showers and toilets instead of rocks, wet wipes and a bucket behind a dune!

In the meantime, I have been working on assembling an international team of operators for W2A (and several other calls worldwide) for World Autism Awareness Week coming March 25 to April 2; so look for us out there. As of this writing we have 2 dozen ops on five continents and almost fifty ops across the US signed up.

— James Gallo, KB2FMH



Contest Corner

– Van W2DLT



OK, in a somewhat separate but relevant vein – In order to work a Contest or DX, for that matter, we must rely on propagation.

- What is propagation anyway?
- Why do sunspots affect propagation?
- Why does sunspot/propagation activity occur in 11 year cycles?
- What do all the numbers mean to us, as ham radio operators and emergency communications (EMCOMM) participants?

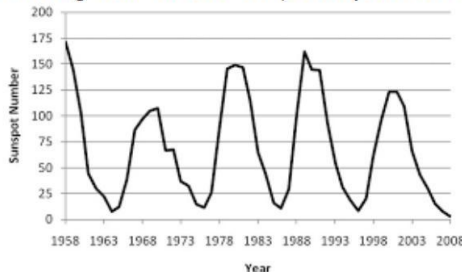


Here's a short dissertation on what gives with Sunspots – maybe you've heard this before, and quite possibly you've not heard about it before and are wondering.

Scientists have tried to evaluate the sun's activity for centuries. Until recently, the only way was to count the spots (of course, don't ever look directly at the sun) and try to relate observed propagation conditions to the number of spots seen.

DAILY SUNSPOT NUMBER:

This number is based on the observable (on the earth facing side of the sun) sunspots on any given day. It occurs quite reliably in 11 year cycles from almost no sunspots (solar minimum) to large numbers of observable sunspots (solar maximum). This number can range from 0 to well above 100 during periods of high solar activity. We are on the upswing toward solar maximum of Cycle 25 which will occur in 2025. It already appears to be a rather strong cycle, so Contesting and DX should be a real adventure in the next few years –



Buckle your seatbelts and GET ON THE AIR!

As a matter of fact, when I was first licensed in the 1950s we had sunspot activity topping 250 during Solar Cycle 19. It was the most active solar cycle ever recorded — as measured by the highest sunspot count at solar maximum of Cycle 19 — which spanned the period between April 1954 and October 1964. The maximum number of sunspots observed during that cycle was a record 285 at one time, which was observed in March 1958 (although as new hams we didn't know what that meant until later when the numbers dropped to zero and DX was often only line of site at times). We're now nearing the middle of Sunspot Cycle 25

SOLAR RADIO FLUX:

Ionizing radiation is often attributed to sunspots, but a more direct measure of one form of radiation is provided by measuring the intensity of radio signals at a wavelength of 10.7cm (2,800MHz) emanating from the sun. These measurements often correlate with sunspot numbers and can vary from 60 to about 600.

Contest Corner, continued.

GEOMAGNETIC INDICIES:



These are delineated by the A and K readings that often relate to CME (Coronal Mass Ejection) activity on the sun. The K index is a short (3hour) average of the horizontal component of earth's magnetic field. It is reported on a scale of 0-9 depending on the intensity of the storm. NOAA keeps tabs on this activity. The A index reading is a measure of the sun's magnetic activity averaged over an entire day. During a CME or magnetic storm, this index may reach a high of 100-400.

So now you know a little about why it is such a GOOD time to gear up for DX and think about doing a Contest or two in the coming years. We're in for a nice ride and some professionals even say we're in for one of the biggest Solar cycles in recent history.

Keep an eye on it by checking the internet for sources and websites that keep track of these indices.

Check the Space Weather Woman, Dr. Tamitha Skove's website for an interesting and up to date report of space weather, as it relates to ham radio and emergency communications at:

<https://www.spaceweatherwoman.com/>



BACK TO THE MORE EXCITING CONTEST RELATED STUFF:

The "official" Contest season is nearly over. One more to go. But fear not – there are literally dozens of Contests every month. Check <https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html> for EVERY contest out there and jump in – the tubes in your final amplifier need some heating up. Below are a few samples of what's out there for the month of March.

--- ARRL DX SSB Contest	0000Z Mar 4 to 2400 Mar 5	Last of the big 4!
--- Worldwide SSB Activity	0100Z – 1200Z Mar 7	
--- South American 10-meter Contest	1200 Mar 11 – 1200 Mar 12	
--- OKLAHOMA QSO Party	1500Z Mar 11 - 0200Z Mar 12	
--- IDAHO QSO Party	1900 Mar 11 – 1900 Mar 12	
--- WISCONSIN QSO Party	1800Z Mar 12 – 0100Z Mar 13	
--- VIRGINIA QSO Party	1400Z Mar 18 – 0400Z Mar 19	

That's a wrap for March – CU in April... GET ON THE AIR...



FLARC PortableOps SIG

PortableOps@FairLawnARC.groups.io

This is a Special Interest Group (SIG) for members interested in portable ham radio operation such as POTA, SOTA, IOTA, LOTA, etc. The purpose of this SIG is to get outdoors and practice our operating skills from different places. We can share outing experiences, tips and work on our operating skills.

Brain N2TBD reports —

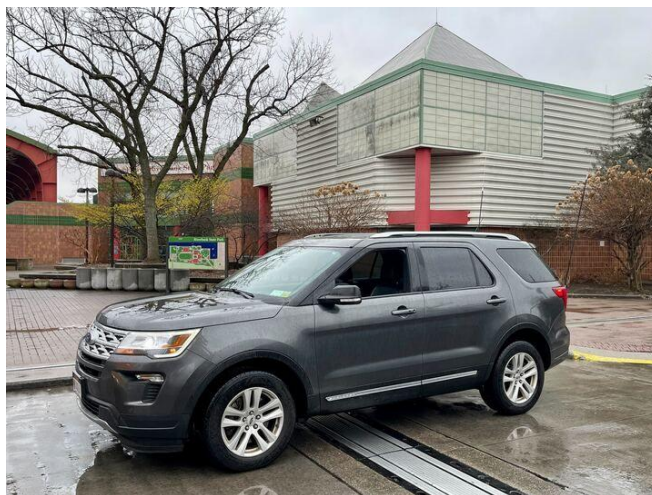
On February 17th I had to take a trip down to New York City so I decided while I was down there I was going to activate my 99th & 100th unique POTA parks.

The first stop was at K-2130 Roberto Clemente State Park in the Bronx. This was only the 8th activation of the park ever, and I had quite the pileup based on its rarity. In 1 hour and 20 minutes of operating a total of 146 stations were logged - including club members Steve W12W, Ken W2SCT & David K2DBK.



The next stop was at K-2125 Denny Farrell Riverbank State Park in Manhattan, along the Hudson River. This was only the 13th activation of the park. In 45 minutes of operating, a total of 85 stations were logged - including club members Steve W12W & Noel W2MSA.

Report from Portable Ops SIG, cont'd



For activating 100 unique POTA parks I received the Arizona Agave Activator Award.



Editor's note: Brian N2BTD is becoming well known nationwide as one of the most active and prolific POTA "Activators" ... we are so proud that he is a member of our FLARC Portable Ops SIG.

As of the end of Feb. 2023 he has done 691 activations at 102 different parks, and made a total of 34,216 QSOs as a result !

Some useful links for POTA —

Real-time spots of activations: <https://pota.app/#/>

Map of all POTA parks in any area of the country or the world! <https://pota.app/#/map>

Get a list of valid parks in any country:

<https://pota.app/#/parklist>

Theoretics Demystified

Induction is the term that came about because in the early days of electrical experimentation, it was discovered that passing a current through a wire produced a magnetic field, as shown by iron filings sprinkled on a piece of paper with a wire passing through it arranged themselves in an orderly pattern - showing the magnetic flux field produced when current was passed through the wire.

It was also later discovered that another wire nearby would have a current INDUCED in it by the magnetic field produced by the first wire. The key is that the magnetic FLUX FIELD must be changed to do so.

What led to the early experimentation of induction was that, earlier, it was found that a magnet MOVING near a wire produced or induced a current in that wire.

Many years earlier, it was found that iron filings sprinkled on a piece of paper produced a pattern when placed near a piece of natural magnetic rock called originally a lead stone but is commonly referred to as a loadstone. Self-induction is another thing that was discovered while experimenting with coils and batteries.

Self-induction happens when the current in a coil decreases and the magnetic flux field collapses to some degree, and that has the same effect as if you took a magnet and pulled it away from a coil. That is, the magnetic flux field changes (the same as moving a magnet near a coil or wire). This is why and how spark coils in cars work. When the current to the coil is removed, the collapsing magnetic field cuts across adjacent turns of the coil and a much higher voltage is generated, which is called BACK ELECTRO MOTIVE FORCE.

This is why there is a diode across the coil of a relay in control circuits, to keep the generated high voltage Back EMF from destroying other parts of the associated circuitry. Inductors in radio circuits, when dealing with an alternating current of a given frequency, the effect of coil turns upon each other changes with the frequency applied and therefore inductors can be designed to eliminate or enhance, reject or pass certain frequencies.

Inductors are called such because their earliest use was as a spark generator having a primary or 'input' coil usually of heavier wire with many turns of wire drawing a large current, and that coil created a magnetic field which induced a current in a secondary coil with many more turns of thinner wire and thus produced a higher voltage in that secondary 'output'

Theoretics Demystified, continued

coil. When the power was removed, a large spark was caused to jump across the output coil terminals if they were close enough. This was the basis for early radio and automotive ignition systems.

The above description of 'spark technology' started out by pure experimentation. Later induction coils were used in telephones to provide larger current needed for the carbon microphones in the talk circuit and the lesser current and higher voltage used in the receiving circuit and that provided the side tone (you are hearing a bit of your voice in the earpiece as you talk). This was a transformer type of setup with one continuous winding with various taps.

Early phone networks had a heavy winding for the early carbon microphones but in later years the wire winding was of all one thickness. In early phones your sidetone (hearing yourself) was quite loud giving rise to an anti-sidetone section of the winding of the network coil. This was accomplished by winding that part of the coil out of phase with the rest of the coil. This produced a partial canceling of the induced sidetone, thereby cutting its volume in the earpiece.

All of this is because a magnet, or an energized coil acting as a magnet, or a coil with an alternating current with the changing magnet field it induces, through its changing flux field, generates corresponding currents in another coil or wire within its magnet field. These properties are used in radio circuits to enhance or diminish certain frequencies by changing the size, shape, number of turns of wire and it's spacing depending on the radio frequencies to be controlled.

Inductors can be like a transformer with many turns of wire like in a choke, a device that is used to smooth out left over AC pulses in a power supply circuit, or a simple multi turn coil with wide spacing of turns used in high frequency RF circuits.

Transformers work because they are refined inventions of the simple spark gap coil. The magnetic field changes in the transformer due to the alternating current so it produces a changing magnetic flux, and that flux induces a changing current in the second(ary) coil. AC in and AC out!

Inductors are everywhere, from the ferrite bar antennas in AM and shortwave radios, the transformers, and other coils in your microwave oven,

Continued on next page.

Theoretics Demystified, continued

older 60 cycle transformers in those 'wall warts' we so often use and the switching circuitry in the new ones, and the computer and other electronics that use the newer switching supplies!

By the way, the new switching supplies take 60 cycle AC rectify it to DC then generate high frequency pulses which are then passed through a much smaller and cheaper transformer and are rectified to the desired DC potential.

Old crystal radios and all radios use inductors in their tuned circuits. Hams use inductors as filters in antenna circuits to improve reception and transmission of signals, to block out unwanted signals and to match the antennas to their radios.

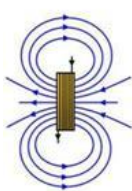
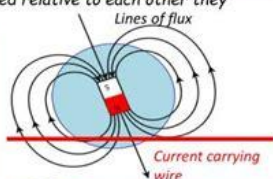
73!!

Fred Wawra, W2ABE

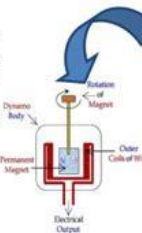
Electromagnetic Induction

When a conductor and a magnetic field are moved relative to each other they generate a current or emf.

When a current carrying wire moves across the magnetic field lines, it 'cuts flux'. This 'cutting flux' generates a current or emf. The effect is magnified if we use a coil of wire: for a coil of wire of N turns, the effect is N times greater than if it were a straight wire.

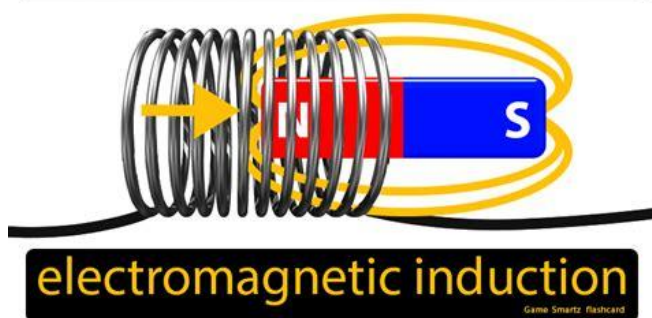


With a coil, we can think of the number of field lines linking the coil. If there is a change in the number of field lines which pass through the coil, there will be an induced emf across the ends of the coil.



Bicycle dynamos work by electromagnetic induction. As the rider pedals, a permanent magnet turns inside a coil of wire. The rotating magnet changes the magnetic flux linking the coil. An emf is therefore induced.

the process of generating a current by moving a conductor through a magnetic field



Radio Direction

Finding SIG Report

This group will discuss Transmitter Hunting - also known as T-Hunting, Fox Hunting, Radio Orienteering or Radio Direction Finding.



We are starting to plan the next transmitter hunt for the early Spring. Both low power (15mW) for training at the park and then a higher power (1W) transmitters will be via car.

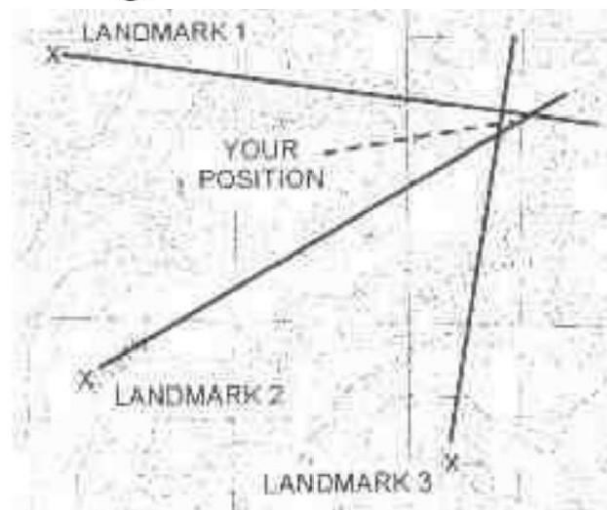
Great event to get the youth interested.

Kits, builds, techniques, and other transmitter hunting information will be on the SIG section of our groups.io website.

For those interested in joining the Radio Direction Finding SIG, subscribe at:

[Radio-Direction-Finding+subscribe@FairLawnARC.groups.io](https://www.fairlawnarc.org/groups/radio-direction-finding)

Triangulation



Order a FLARC Shirt!

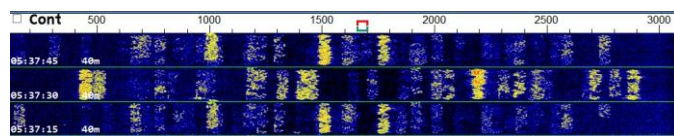
Nomar NP4H is taking orders for a spiffy bright red (really sort-of maroon) polo shirt for Field Day. This is a pilot for a possible new vendor and will match our current shirts which are available by mail. This order is from a reputable local vendor. The price is \$25.00 with your call sign sewn in.

Contact Nomar directly at np4h@aol.com.

FT8 & Digital Data Modes Special Interest Group Update

FT8@FairLawnARC.groups.io

A Special Interest Group SIG for those interested in FT8 and FT4 digital communications and software.



These days, there are several different software programs that provide FT8/FT4 operation. The original is WSJT-X, created by Joe Taylor K1JT and a group of other expert programmers. Joe Taylor has been awarded the Nobel Prize for his development of software for astrophysics – which he then applied to ham radio with WSJT-X. He generously licensed this software as GPL, General Public License. This allowed public access to the software code, and has resulted in several “branched” programs being developed by others. As many of us have discovered while chasing recent DXpeditions, a good deal of confusion has resulted from the several similar but different operating programs. Some of these programs are JTDX, MSHV, WSJT-X_improved, JS8CALL, and others.

The original WSJT-X was recently upgraded to version 2.6.0 which added some really nice features to the already great program. I'll start by mentioning a few that I really appreciate.

Immediately noticeable on the main window is a new column of six buttons on the left, under the band selection window. These buttons provide fast, easy mode changes. Now you can switch to Hound mode (for DX Fox/Hound), FT8, FT4, MSK, Q65 and JT65 with single mouse click. (Previously, such change required either clicking to File / Settings and making several setup changes, or creating various Configurations for each mode – and changing modes took some time; now it's one mouse click!).

Another not-so-obvious new feature is that if you right-click on the waterfall it will move both the Rx and Tx frequency to that spot. At first I thought this was trivial, but as I used it I began to love it. Previously, this function required holding down the Alt key on the keyboard and then clicking on the waterfall – which meant one hand on the mouse and one on the keyboard. Now it can be done just with the mouse.

Continued on next page.

DIY, Makers, Raspberry Pi, 3d Printing and Arduino Special Interest Group Update

Rpi-Arduino@FairLawnARC.groups.io

A Special Interest Group SIG for those wanting to learn about and use Raspberry Pi, and Arduino, modules - with special interest, of course, for ham radio projects...and for those who “MAKE” ham stuff.

FOR THOSE WHO “MAKE” HAM STUFF! Not just Raspberry Pi and Arduino

FLARC has a SIG for those who experiment and build Ham Radio equipment or would like to learn. Projects have been posted.

For those interested in a local well-equipped maker-space check out Bergen Makerspace in Hackensack. Their website is:

<https://bergenmakerspace.bergen.org/>

The Bergen Makerspace is now open again with “Open Night” typically on Wednesdays from 5-8pm.

To sign up go to:

<https://www.meetup.com/Bergen-Makerspace/>

I have gone to several special interest presentations there including: Digital TV antenna building (left with HDTV antenna I built), Hydroponic Gardening, Software Defined Radio (left with SDR dongle).

For those interested in joining the FLARC Maker SIG, go to the club website FairLawnARC.org and use the "Join Special Interest Group(s)" link on left.



2022 Member Profiles

Here are this year's member profiles. An index of previous years can be found elsewhere in this issue. All profiles can be found in the newsletter archives on the FLARC website.

Month	Name	Callsign
January 2022	James	KB2FMH
February	Brian	N2BTD
March	Luisa	KD2YWX
April	Ria	N2RJ
May	Telly	WW2SPY
June	Ken	W2SCT
July	Avanti	KC3DZG
August	Norm	KB2JRP
September	Ahmed	W2/HC2AP
October	Mitch	KD2IIU
November	Mike	KD2YEW
December	Robert	KD2SOG

FT8 & Digital Data Modes Special Interest Group Update, cont'd

FT8 decoding on crowded bands has been improved. The frequency [band] selection drop-down menu now has a place to note what the frequency is used for – which I find very handy for the Fox frequencies used by the various DXpeditions. You can even select date/time for a special frequency to show in the table.

Some features have also been added to make FT more useable for more contests than previously. Details of all the recent enhancements can be found at –

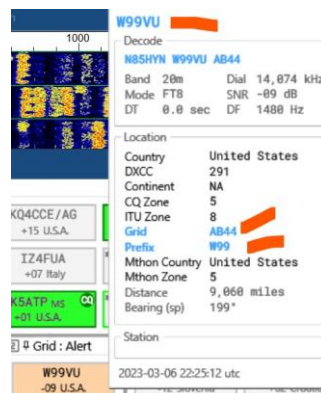
https://wsjt.sourceforge.io/Release_Notes.txt

So if you have not updated WSJT-X yet, you should!

Once in a while, a strange decode will be seen in the FT8 decode window (and might trigger an alert such as 'new country' or 'new grid' in JTAlert if you are using that). Some of these are obvious just from the oddball call sign, but others can be more subtle. I have found that a /R after the call usually indicates a problem. Another clue is when the grid square shown is nowhere near where you would expect the station to be – such as the middle of an ocean, or the south pole! (Grid maps can be found on the internet, but we've shown a nice one at the end of this article.) Why do we get bad decodes? In spite of the strong error detection and correction in the WSJT-X software, noise or fading or QRM can damage the digital data and cause a bad decode. They don't happen often, but turning off "Enable AP" in the Decode tab will reduce them.



FT8 & Digital Data Modes Special Interest Group Update, cont'd



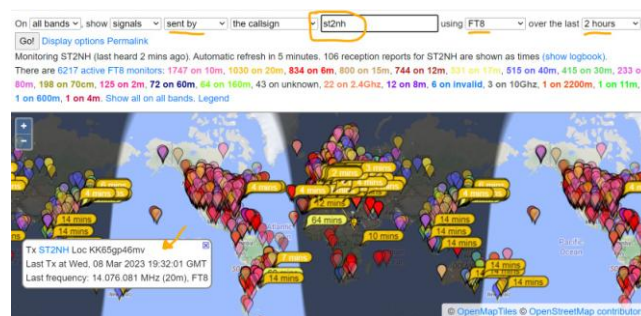
Not the best example, but here is a faulty decode that I saw recently. The callsign is clearly faulty – W99 ...

The grid shows as AB44, which would be just off the coast of Antarctica below the South Pacific.

Also note that the station being called, N85HYN, is also a non-existent call format.

And lastly, a hint for chasing DXpeditions and other stations you want to contact. How do you know if they are on the air NOW, and if so what frequency they are using? A great way to answer is to use –

<https://www.pskreporter.info/pskmap.html>



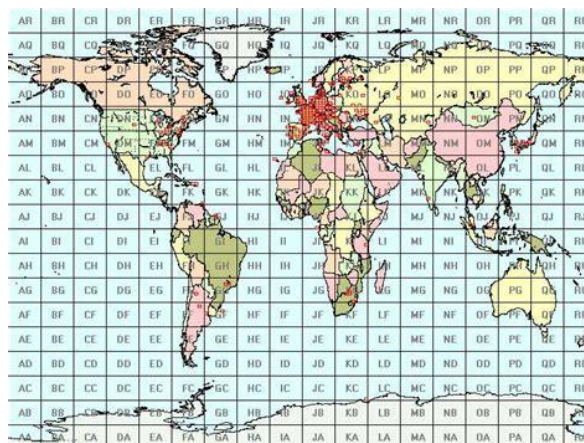
Set up as shown above, mouse over the DX, and you will see the last time they were heard and on what frequency and mode! You can do the same with your own call and see where you are being received and how strong your signal is there.

— Jim W2JC

Join the FLARC FT-8 Special Interest Group –

Just send an email to:

FT8+subscribe@FairLawnARC.groups.io





For FLARC membership info and renewal/application form please visit:

membership.FairLawnARC.org

FLARC Dues, new and renewal, (and even donations!) can now be made on-line ...

[Please note that this is a temporary improvement while Dave KD2JIP works on a real, full-fledged web page for filling out the membership/renewal form and submitting that and payment on-line.]

Payments can be made using either PayPal or Zelle.

Here's how –

Using PayPal —

Log into your PayPal account at

<https://www.paypal.com>

At top right, select "My PayPal"

Under Quick links, select "Send Money"

In the window showing
Name, email or mobile number
enter this email address:

1947xyzabc1947@gmail.com

Click on [Next]

Enter \$ amount you are sending, & in "add a note" area type in your CALL SIGN and which year (2020 or 2021) the dues are for, & any other explanation.

Click on [Continue]

Click on the [Change] button

Click on "Sending to a friend" link

CONTINUED IN NEXT COLUMN —>



Sending to a friend

No fee to use bank or balance to send to friends and family in the U.S.

You will see a summary of your transaction; if no changes are required, click on

[Send Payment Now]

to complete your transaction.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Using Zelle —

If you are using Zelle through your bank account, just send your dues to the following number: 201-240-9317

Don't forget to add in the note/message section your callsign and that it is for your 2020 and/or 2021 dues.

OR you can still use a good ol' Check or Money Order payable to FLARC - always put your Call Sign and "dues for 2020" (or 2021) on the check. MAIL TO:

Bruce Kalogera, NJ2BS
163 Meadow Lane
Secaucus, NJ 07094

For a PDF form that can be filled in on-line, then printed and mailed with check, [CLICK HERE](#)

Or you can print this page, fill it in and mail to the address shown at the bottom.



Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club

Fair Lawn Recreation and Community Center
10-10 20th Street
Fair Lawn, N.J. 07410

MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

Name _____ Call _____

Address _____ PO Box _____ Ste./Apt # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Roster Published Phone # _____ Unpublished Phone # _____

Roster Published EMAIL _____ License class: _____

Check all that apply ☐ ARRL Member ? ☐ RACES Member ? ☐ ARES Member ? ☐ CERT ? ☐ VE ?

Additional Family Members (In same household) --

Name _____ Call _____

Name _____ Call _____

Introductory and Student Membership \$ 20 \$ _____
(Students under the age of 18 eligible for student membership)
(Introductory membership open to new members
or not a member in last 7 yrs)

Associate Membership * (No Fee)
* Open to Fair Lawn Residents Only. No voting rights or other privileges.

Renewal of Current Membership \$ 25 \$ _____

Three Year Renewal Incentive \$ 65 \$ _____

(Single memberships only, family memberships excluded)

Additional Family Members # _____ at \$ 5 each \$ _____

Life Membership \$ 625 \$ _____

Senior Life Membership (65 yrs. of age or over) \$ 250 \$ _____

Equipment Fund Donation, above regular membership dues \$ _____

Total submitted \$ _____

Date _____

I hereby acknowledge the By laws and rules and regulations of the club and will abide by them as amended

Please Note: Memberships are NOT Pro-Rated. Membership is from Jan 1st to Dec. 31st of any given year unless documented otherwise.

Please make your dues check payable to the "Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club" and remit to the following address:

Fair Lawn Amateur Radio Club

Bruce Kalogera NJ2BK

163 Meadow Lane

Secaucus, NJ 07094

Mail sent to the clubhouse will be delayed due to
Covid. See website for other membership options.

Complete this form for NEW or RENEWAL ARRL membership and give to FLARC Treasurer [Bruce Kalogera NJ2BK] with your payment check.



ARRL Affiliated Club Membership Application

- ☐ I am a brand-new member, or my membership lapsed for 2 or more years. My club will receive a \$15 commission.
- ☐ I am renewing (includes lapsed members of less than 2 years). My club will receive a \$5.00 commission.

Name _____ Call Sign _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Date of Birth ____ / ____ / ____

- ☐ My Family Member is Joining or Renewing: (Annually \$10 per member)

Name _____

Name _____

Your Annual Membership Dues –

Circle Your Choice

	3 Years	2 Years	1 Year
US Membership	\$140	\$95	\$49
International (Digital Only)	\$140	\$95	\$49
International (with mailed QST)	\$217	\$147	\$76
Blind	\$30	\$20	\$10
Family	\$30	\$20	\$10
Student			\$25

TOTAL \$

Choose your print magazine –

Check One

- ☐ **QST**, ARRL's membership journal for active radio amateurs (12 monthly issues)
- ☐ **On the Air**, Beginner-to-intermediate-level help and advice (6 bimonthly issues)
- ☐ **Digital Only** (All members can access the digital versions of both magazines)

Payment

Enclosed is my: ☐ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Charge Request

Charge to my: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Amex ☐ Discover

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Card Holders Signature _____

Toll Free (US) 1-888-277-5289 or 860-594-0200 • ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111-1400
membership@arrl.org • www.arrl.org/join

March 2023

FLARC Business Meeting

FLARC Business Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2023

1. Call to order @ 7:40 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States
3. Roll call of officers
4. DAVE CORSELLO KD2JIP P
5. DAVID GOTLIB KD2MOB P
BRUCE KOLOGERA NJ2BK A
LEE SMITH KD2DRS P
STEVE ROSMAN KA2YRA P
FRED WAWRA W2ABE P
BRIAN CIRULNICK KD2KLN P
6. Reading and approval of February Minutes – motion to accept

Motion to accept: STAN KC2K

2ND DAVE N2AAM

Unanimously Approved

7. Reports of officers
 - a. President Dave Corsello KD2JIP
 - i. Upcoming events (see Resonator copy)

Mar 4th Super Science Saturday in Ridgewood.

FEB 25TH, a club contact with WPBARG was set up by ED WX2R, our sister organization.

Ed's Member survey March 17th on Zoom A good look at our club.

Hawthorne Environment day, need participants, an indoor event.

See ED WX2R or Dave KD2JIP Sat, Apr 22nd

May 24th Earth Day at Great Falls, need volunteers,

STEVE KA2YRA leading the event [A POTA event.]

- b. Vice President David Gotlib KD2MOB

No Report

- c. Secretary Lee Smith KD2DRS

- d. Treasurer Bruce Kalogera NJ2BK

Continued on next page.

March 2023 FLARC

Business Meeting, continued

Motion to Accept FRED W2ABE

2ND JUDITH KC2LTM

Unanimously approved.

8. Reports of committees

a. Field Day (Noel W2MSA)

No report.

b. Member Services / Health and Welfare (Judith KC2LTM)

1 SYMPATHY CARD, STEVE ROSMAN'S FATHER INLAW

STEVE KA2YRA will make a plaque for the donation

of his Father in-law's station.

c. Marketing / Programming (Ed WX2R)

Marketing Committee Report

Kawfee Tawks

We have three programs scheduled through May 2023.

March 24, 2023	Ed Efchak	WX2R	The 2023 FLARC Member Survey
April 21, 2023	David de Coons	WO2X	Understanding and Operating the Flex Radios
May 19, 2023	Ron Wilcox	KF7ZN	A Visit to the Sun and the Ionosphere

Events

- Earth Day at Great Falls National Historical Park — Wednesday, May 24, 2023
- World Amateur Radio Day — Tuesday, April 18
- Hawthorne Environmental Day — Saturday, April 22
- W1AW/2 VOTA station operation — Week of August 9, 2023
- The Great American Eclipse: October 14, 2023 QSO Party and WSPR participation

(Fair Lawn)

Partial solar eclipse visible (22.87% coverage of Sun)

Magnitude: 0.347

Duration: 2 hours, 27 minutes, 1 second

Partial begins: Oct 14, 2023 at 12:08:39 pm

Maximum: Oct 14, 2023 at 1:22:00 pm

Partial ends: Oct 14, 2023 at 2:35:40 pm

Times shown in local time (EDT)

Community Relations

Continued on next page.

March 2023 FLARC

Business Meeting, continued

Fair Lawn Street Fairs: June 4 and Oct 15

Other

West Palm Beach club partnership

- Had our first joint operating activity on Saturday, February 25th. Lots of fun and we will look to do it again on a Saturday in March
- Request for station-to-station contact for Saturday, March 25, 2023, from approximately 1000-1400 local time.

Other

Starting to work on the June ham fest promotion

d. Video / YouTube (Thom W2NZ)

REPORT IS 1,065 subscribers TOP 3: KENT BRITTON WA5ZJB, BOB ZINOTTI HB9ASQ PART 2, SHORTWAVE ISN'T DEAD. Avg duration is going down.

FRED W2ABE commented a lot of NJ Vintage Amateur Radio Club subscribed to get us over 1,000.

e. Social Media (Brian N2BTD, David NK2Q)

REPORT:

7 POSTS

953 post reach

181 page visits

13 new page likes

Update on Bouvet Island, 531 reactions.

Members should visit our Facebook page

- f. Community Relations (Gene WO2W, David KD2MOB)
- g. Hamfest / Auction (Gene WO2W, Nomar NP4H, Bruce NJ2BK)
- h. Education (Bill NB1LL, Skip KD2BRV)

No Report

- i. Nets (Brian KD2KLN) Looking for help.

NEAR AND FAR NET EVERY MONDAY could always use a Net Control operator.

Every Monday night.

March 2023 FLARC Business Meeting, continued

DAVE KD2MOB and DAVE MARTHOUSE GUEST HOST

j. Contests (Van W2DLT)

NONE

k. Website (Jim Cooper W2JC)

The website has the basic information needed including the calendar and all events, would like volunteers to work on the web pages describing our stations, they are aged.

l. Technical Committee (Paul Cornett W2IP, Fred W2ABE, Steve W2W)

Bouvet fell short. This is a hobby and should be enjoyed.

Antenna work on the roof: is there a company that could do the work for us?.

WA2VUN MIKE would do the work. There are outside companies but they would charge \$5,000 or so.

Cross-member support needs to be fixed as the first priority.

>Action is to get an estimate for the next meeting.

2 FRC Hams are in the installing business. JIM W2JC said:, W2GD & AA1K.

Dave KD2JIP would like a Technical Meeting in the next few weeks.

i. Drafting of call sign usage policy

ii. Call a meeting of the committee in the coming weeks

m. RACES / ARES CERT (David KD2MOB, Steve WA2BYX)

Looking for more participation on the Wed Net.

n. VE sessions (Gene W02W)

3 people came for testing, Technician, General, Technician

Sat March 18th, 3 people signed up

HAMFEST—Park reserved for Field day weekend, A Save the Date mailer will be going out soon.

Park has been reserved for 2 Saturdays in June. NOMAR

o. Youth Committee (Lee Smith KD2DRS)

March 2023 FLARC

Business Meeting, continued

March 4th Super Science Day, FT8, MORSE CODE, FOX HUNTING, Handouts, Pizza Box Crystal Radio 9AM-1:30PM Over 1,000 kids there. 250 exhibitors.

Kit Building process for Pizza Box Crystal Radio upcoming, date to be set.

Working on a calendar to grab events to move forward and a youth committee meeting.

p. Grant Committee (Bruce Kalogera NJ2BK)

q. Bylaws Committee (David KD2MOB)

4 weeks ago had a meeting to update the bylaws. Next step is a draft later this month.

JUDITH KC2LTM was one of the first signers.

DAVID KD2MOB said we should seek recognition from the town.

r. Special Interest Groups

PORTABLE OPS NOTHING.

NEW MEMBERS:

W02X the Flex Radio guy, David de Coons

KD2DSE Bogdan Malinowski

KE2AUI Maria Collins

9. Unfinished business

a. Business Continuity (Dave KD2JIP)

i. 5G Hotspot

1. Verizon has confirmed that devices are not specific to personal and business accounts, so I will be adding a hotspot plan to my personal Verizon account. Looking for one with ethernet.

ii. Zoom account for President

1. Changed the email address of my personal account to president@fairlawnarc.org; need to discuss payment options with Bruce.

iii. Cloud repository for club documents, versioning is part of it.

1. Started a Free Tier EC2 instance of Alfresco CMS for evaluation

About \$9/ month.

iv. Procedures for club officer transition meetings – not started

March 2023 FLARC Business Meeting, continued

- b. Bouvet Island DXpedition
 - i. Jim KB2FMH is appointed to head up the effort to honor the 3Y0J team,
A draft has not yet been created.

10. New Business

- a. Crystal radio kit build night :
 - >DAVE KD2JIP will advise GENE WO2W on what days to ask for from the center by Wednesday, March 8th.
 - Parents will have to sign up.
- b. **InfoAge** field trip, WEDS, SAT, SUNDAY, Noon to 5PM.

FRED WA2BE Mentioned MARCH 18TH at PAL building, PARSIPPANY NJ ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

STEVE WA2BYX, SK process for Judith's, Health and Welfare group, need an obituary to the ARRL.

Motion to approve: DAVE N2AAN

2ND BRIAN KD2KLN

Unanimous approval.

11. Closing remarks from the President

12. Adjournment – motion to close.

Motion to approve: LEE KD2DRS

2ND BRIAN KD2KLN

Unanimously approved.

MEETING CLOSED AT: 8: 39 PM



Past FLARC Member Profiles

Here is a list of past member features and we welcome your recommendations for new profiles -- including your own.

Month	Name	Call Sign
January 2016	Pete	KB2BMX
February	Marco	KC2ZMA
March	Ron	KC2TBD
April	Kai	K2TRW
May	Larry	WA2ALY
June	Dave	N8MAR
July	Steve	W12W
August	Thom	W2NZ
September	Brian	KD2KLN
October	Brad	KM2C
November	Al	WA2OWL
December	George	W3EH
January 2017	Fred	W2ABE
February	Dave	KD2MOB
March	Randy	WU2S
April	Lee	KD2DRS
May	Gene	WO2W
June	Carol	KD2NMV
July	Kevin	KC2KCC
August	Robert	KD2NOG
September	Robert	KD2BKD
October	John	KD2NRS
November	Fred	W2AAB
December	Margaret	W2GB
January 2018	Brian	KD2OAZ
February	Bennett	KO2OK
March	Van	W2DLT
April	Aly	ALØY
May	Bruce	NJ2BK
June	Dave	N2AAM
July	Karl and Susan	W2KBF and W2SKT
August	Steve	KA2YRA
September	Paul	K2PJC
October	Skip	KD2BRV
November	Jim	W2JC
December	Tom	N2AAX

By the way, Randy (WU2S) has compiled a binder of all back issues of *The Resonator* and it's located in the club office.

Thanks Randy!!!

2019-20 Member Profiles

The year is now complete and here is a list of the 2019 monthly profiles. See past profiles elsewhere in *The Resonator* to check back in the archives to see each featured member's background.

Month	Name	Call Sign
January 2019	Dave	KD2JIP
February	Jim	K2ZO
March	Zach	KC2RSS
April	Bob	N2SU
May	Stan	KC2K
June	Steve	WA2BYX
July	Roger	K2RRB
August	Judith	KC2LTM
September	Chris	W2TU
October	Bob	N2SU
November	Bob	WA2ISE
December	Carol	KD2NMV
January 2020	Gordon	W2TTT
February	Chris	KD2JQZ
March	Glenn	KD2MDR
April	Steve	K2SAB
May	Ahmed	NJ8Y
June	Charlie	AC2ZU
July	Jim	N2JLF
August	Walt	K3DQB
September	Gregg	N2ECH
October	Jim	W2KNG
November	Dave	KD2SGM
December	Bill	NB1ILL

2021 Member Profiles

Here is a list of the 2021 monthly profiles.

Month	Name	Call Sign
January 2021	Ed	KD2TVT
February	John	W2USN
March	Noel	W2MSA
April	Gene	KD2VNI
May	Berlotte	KD2MYF
June	Noel	N2OEL
July	Roy	KD2VMX
August	Jeremy	K2GRI
September	Bill	WA2WL
October	Nomar	NP4H
November	David	AC2GL
December	Paul Brennan	N6FB/MØJOV